

T H E

Intriguing Coxcomb :

O R T H E

SECRET HISTORY

O F

Sir *Edmund Godfrey.*

Illustrated with a Variety of Incidents which happened to himself, and the celebrated Miss L\*\*\*\* C\*\*\*\*\*, in the Course of their several Years Acquaintance ; the Whole calculated to amuse and instruct the attentive Reader.

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V O L. II.

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THE



T H E  
SECRET HISTORY

O F

Sir *Edmund Godfrey.*

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V O L. II.

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C H A P. I.

*A digression from the main story, which  
the reader may peruse or pass over.*

\*\*\* H A T I may divert my  
\* T \* reader as well as I can, I  
\* \* \* shall not dwell wholly up-  
on myself, but entertain him, now  
and then, with an adventure of a  
VOL. II. B friend,

friend, in particular with the following; the convenience of this method of proceeding will be, that if he finds the story not palatable, he may skip it and resume the thread of my own adventures at his pleasure.

A MAN of my acquaintance, named Powis, born as many others, something less than nothing, was promoted, by dint of labour and industry, to an honourable post, which brought him more respect than profit; for which reason he retained a right to make the best of his money in the hands of private persons, in the name of one of his clerks. He carried on this commerce for near fifteen years, at the expiration whereof, finding himself possessed of an estate of four thousand pounds a year, he resolved to enjoy it, and the first thing he set about was to procure an advantageous marriage. He

He found the daughter of one of his fraternity, young and pretty, and very near as rich as himself, though he was thirty-five years older than she, yet he made bold to wed her.

LET who will, after this, say that men of business want courage and intrepidity. His wife's portion gave him more pleasure than her person, however, he saw with satisfaction, that she was lovely, but unfortunately he was not the only person that made this remark. Lord D—— happened to have some pecuniary affairs with him. He had a right to complain, but kept well with him as a resource upon occasion. He went to make him a compliment upon his marriage, a mere ceremonious visit. He found the young married wife pretty, and made a second visit from quite different views. Madam Powis had not what they call the tone of polite company ; my



lord took upon him the task of being her instructor; he made Powis throw away vast sums of money in cloaths, horses, equipages and costly entertainments. The husband who wanted to give his wife a good idea of him in the beginning, was all complaisance. He did well, for that is old men's resource, and yet there is often but small account made of it upon some occasions, so that their only resource often fails them.

A CERTAIN wise man thwarted my lord's projects, by telling Powis that his wife acted the lady of quality; that he made himself ridiculous by ostentation; that by following a course above his rank, he would in ruining himself make a great many enemies, and be conducted, at length, to the fleet to end his days in. Powis relished this advice exceedingly. Could it be any otherwise than agreeable to a miser? He reckoned up his expence,

expence, which made him tremble,  
 and that very evening he wanted to  
 begin the work of his reformation.  
 He notified to madam a plan of con-  
 duct which she did not fail to disap-  
 prove of, and which my lord found  
 as ridiculous as could be. The poor  
 husband pleaded his cause, but was  
 condemned with costs. The next  
 day madam lost at play, an hun-  
 dred and fifty pounds, he raved, but  
 his mouth was stopped by his being  
 told, that she had lost this sum with  
 a marchioness and two dukes, and  
 he was made to understand, that a  
 hundred and fifty pounds was no-  
 thing, compared with the honour of  
 playing with two courtiers. All this  
 was said with an air so decisive and  
 peremptory, that he durst not reply.  
 He went to lay his case open to his  
 father-in-law, who replied, after  
 laughing at him a good deal, that it  
 was an easy thing for a man to be  
 master in his own house. An ad-

vice so little satisfactory stirred up Powis's indignation, who took it in his head, that my lord was in love with his wife, and that his assiduous visits might cast a blemish upon his reputation, untainted by usury. He was deceived, for this lady's intrigue had been so long discovered, that it was no longer the talk of the town.

HE made very serious remonstrances to his wife; she laughed at them; he put on an angry countenance; she came no more home, but to sleep; he refused her money; she sold her diamonds; in fine, he gave orders that his door should be shut against lord D——; the porter obeyed; madam heard of it, and by her own proper authority turned this insolent domestic out of doors, who had been so bold as to obey his master's orders. Such a bold stroke gave a terrible check to the husband's courage; he held his peace; the poor man,

man could do no more. How many husbands at that time discoursed upon this adventure and made a jest of him, who were, nevertheless, almost in the same case, without being sensible of it. Lord D—— continued his frequent visits, madam played, and often lost; she never came home till four in the morning. Powis said nothing, but at last he took courage to clamour louder than before, and to renew his complaints. Lord D—— heard him with an air of disdainful complaisance, and thereafter undertook to make him hearken to reason. Mr. Powis, said he to him, you are my friend, you know it well; I would not have you be angry; I come to your house because I love you, and you may depend upon that, it does you honour in the world. Let us live well together; no noise; you do not chuse that mrs Powis should play, faith people play that they may do some-



thing; she comes home late, she does well, and who pray goes soon to bed. Truly, mr. Powis, you have too much of the money scrivener in you. These extravagancies sat pretty easy upon the benign husband, but the word money scrivener made him outrageous; he abused lord D——, who went away at last, being very seriously and earnestly desired to leave the house.

Powis consulted with blockheads who with a very profound gravity advised him to be guilty of a great many extravagancies. He began with selling madam's coach and horses, and afterwards confined her to her room, giving such good orders at the gate, that there was no access for lord D——, and for fear of being deceived, he scarce went any more out. After some time he perceived his affairs languished, and therefore neglected the guard of his wife,

wife, in order to take the better care of his fortune. He happened one day to meet with me at a merchant's, to whom for a premium less honest than lucrative, he furnished funds to pay off bills of exchange; he was charmed to see me, and taking me aside to a remote part of the warehouse, told me his melancholy story. I blamed him very much, but in the manner we ought to blame people that are embarrassed, that is to say, in reasoning with them. Methought I saw that it would be no hard task for me to make him discreet and moderate. I engaged him to come and dine with me next day. He did not fail, and our conversation ran upon the same subject. I made him sensible that by his ridicule he obscured his merit. He promised to treat his wife better, upon condition that I would go and see her, and determine her to leave off her follies; I promised to do my endeavours

deavours, but not to succeed. I accordingly waited on the lady, but had the precaution to make a visit to lord D—— before I went to the house. He was very much of a gentleman, he made no mystery of his good fortune, and begged, without ceremony, that I would be mediator betwixt Powis and him: I was sensible of all the dignity of this commission, but did not undertake it, and only told him, that if he had access again to his mistress, he ought to conduct himself with more prudence; but this was talking good sense to a fool.

Mrs. Powis told me her grievances in a very moving manner, but she had much more discretion than her lover; I did not improve the confidence he had placed in me by owning his happiness, I only told her, that a husband ought to be kept fair with. Such morality did  
not

not sound quite well in her ladyship's ears, but circumstances made her find it solid ; so that I made up matters betwixt this jarring couple, contrary to my expectation. Powis did more foolish and extravagant things for his wife than it is almost possible to conceive. He gave her diamonds double the value of what she had sold ; he bought her a coach and horses proper for a princess to make use of, and a money scrivener to pay for.

THE first visit Mrs. Powis made after matters were compromised, was at my house. I gave her a dinner in good company, after which she played, and won every one's money. The next day her husband told me she had lost. I did not think proper to undeceive him, but I judged by this, that the frequent losses of which she complained, were invented to conceal the presents that she



she made her lover. I mentioned the thing to lord D——, but he denied the fact, out of vanity, as I imagined. Mrs. Powis lived pretty well with her husband for about six months; he was obliged to take a journey into Suffex, to see an estate that he wanted to purchase, his wife pretended an indisposition that she might not be obliged to accompany him. He loved her, believed her, and set out alone. Eight days after his departure, I went to visit his lady, but was told that she was in the country. I imagined that lord D—— was concerned in this absence, but I happened to meet him the same day, and he seemed to be as much in the dark as I. We both of us believed that a return of affection had carried her to Suffex, and that she would come back with her husband. Lord D—— condemned so sudden a conversion; it is true, the

the lady might have easily found what was better than her husband.

AT length Powis arrived, and discovered the error we were under in believing her to be with him, in the surprize he expressed on not finding her at home. He had her apartment broke open, where madam had left nothing that could be easily carried off; but what gave the finishing stroke to the despair of this poor martyr to complaisance, was to see his cash chest open, in which he confessed some time after, that he had left about eleven thousand pounds, to pay for his purchase in Suffex, which, however, he presently made up. What finances flow from the usuring trade!

A GREAT many officious people were mighty forward in their endeavours to find out the wife by dishonouring the husband; it was known

known by the domesticks that one of Powis's clerks had often visited madam during the time of her confinement; endeavours were not wanting to find him out, but he had disappeared, and about a year after it was known that they were together in Holland. Projectors and givers of advice are more numerous at London than friends; Powis was advised to go and find out his wife, and to prosecute his clerk, he relished this project, and set out without letting me know any thing of the matter; but when he had got into Holland, he was seized with a fever at an inn in a small village, where grief was his physician, and in twelve days conducted him to his grave.

Mrs. Powis kept a regular correspondence in England, she had an account of her husband's death, and returned to take the benefit of a contract

tract of marriage, which was very advantageous to her. The parents of the deceased, though they had trudged it on foot from the extremity of the kingdom, were deprived of this succession, and only had the pleasure of being acknowledged the poor heirs of a very rich money scrivener, the widow being entitled to the use and profits of the whole estate during life, besides her claim for a considerable part of the capital as her property. The clerk had remained in Holland. The lovely widow sent him word to come over, but he did not think proper to comply, chusing rather to marry where he was, and keep what he had got in his hands. Mrs. Powis comforted herself for this loss with lord D——, who re-entered the lists. But avarice is often attached to the possession of treasures, lord D—— found it so by experience. Mrs. Powis while her husband lived, made



made him many presents, but gave him nothing since she was a widow, for which reason he left her, not being accustomed to live upon love. So ended this adventure.

BUT to return to Lucinda. The reader may, if he pleases, remember, or if his memory should fail him, he may refresh it, by turning to the place where I said that my money was almost gone; the natural consequence of which was, that Lucinda left me, having previously taken care to move off every thing from her lodgings that was capable of being moved. Several years after, as a friend of mine and myself were at the opera, he, *viz.* mr. S—— my friend, observed a singer who appeared charming to him. He made me take notice of her, I found her pretty, and even something more, but her charms made no impression upon me. The case was quite different

ferent with my friend, he was directly her conquest, and had no pleasure or patience till the opera was over. I frankly gave my assent to his taste in favour of this theatrical princess, in which I hoped to find some diversion. Mr. S—— pretended to limit his pleasures to that of seeing and admiring his beautiful mistress, but what lover is there who does not say the same thing when his passion first begins. English prejudice, not at all favourable to the reputation of singers, gave him hopes which he thought the more solid as he did not want money.

HE was pleased to impart his views to me, and as he was in a hurry to be happy, he appeared to me to be in the disposition of paying largely, not the love, but the complacence of the signora. I endeavoured to make him see the ridicule  
of

of such a project; I reproached him with having his whole thoughts taken up with his pleasures, while his distressed family languished in expectation of his return to them in the country. I saw upon this occasion that my friend was one of those men with whom persons absent are always in the wrong. He really loved his wife, but not seeing her he forgot her. The least pretty faced girl appeared to him a beauty. When I spoke of mrs. S—— he remembered her; I insisted he adored her, and was out of conceit with adventures. In this happy minute, he felt the solidity of my reasons, embraced me with thanks for my good advice, and we both wrote into the country. He shewed me his letter to his wife, tender and affectionate, and I remarked with satisfaction, that he was touched with the manner in which I read it. I received great hopes from a conversion so sincere, and

and it is certain that he himself was as much in hopes of it as I; we did not go to the opera, that day, this was the first proof of his reformation. We went to see a cabinet of curiosities which were shewn by a foreigner; we found a numerous assembly there, and were very well diverted. I had a good taste for mechanics, he admired every thing, and made me take a more particular notice of what we saw, than what I should otherwise have done, and with which I had no reason to be displeased.

THE first thing we were shewn, was a collection of shells fit for the amusement of fools, and the more astonishing, the less they were natural; for in all countries there are people who with enamel, gum, or varnish, form or assemble several shells, and make prodigies of them. In short, we were so well pleased with



with the several things he laid before us, that we promised to return next day. I was curious to have some discourse with the man that shewed them. We returned early, when there were but few in the place: with the first glance of my eye I perceived signora —— seated in a place where she could be seen to advantage. She was dressed rather decently than sumptuously, but she was a finger and pretty, and that was enough to attract the looks and contempt of the ladies. I always dressed in plain cloaths, and I was sensible I should make but a poor figure in the circle of those who were going to make their court to the signora, which determined me to retire from where she was. I thought mr. S—— followed, and when I had taken a place, I was surprized to see him in close conference with the belle. He made a sign to me to approach, but I took

no

no notice of it. I observed that he talked with her during the whole time the curiosities were exposed.

THE signora went away alone, and my friend came to me. Would you believe it, said he, that the beautiful creature is an English woman? I believe it since you say it, answered I coldly. Yes she is, continued he, she knows our language perfectly well. I answered, that all this might very well be, but that it gave me no manner of concern. He repeated twenty times, that she was a girl of the first merit. O for that, said I, interrupting him, you will give me leave to differ from you; an actress is no very honourable employment, as you would represent it. He was, at first, somewhat at a loss for an answer: he had no other resource but to make his defence upon the side of the mind and sentiments; but I attacked him

him anew upon this article, by telling him, that heroism is common in the mouth, but seldom to be found in the heart. When a woman has wit, and converses with men prepossessed by beautiful and persuasive eyes, it is an easy matter to shine on the side of sentiment. Conduct is the touchstone that destroys the glittering lustre of this pompous exhibition. I have no intention to attack the honour of the fair signora, but as I do not know her, I may without doing her any injustice, suspend my belief of her good or bad qualities. Mr. S——, finding that I was by no means prepossessed in favour of his mistress, thought it best to drop the subject, to which I readily consented, and our conversation ran upon the curiosities we had seen.

## C H A P II.

*Continuation of digression.*

FIVE or six days after, being fatigued with studying, I went one morning to call upon my friend to propose going out, but I found him not, neither came he home to dinner, nor in the evening till it was late. I had waited for him; he made me polite, but frivolous excuses. As I knew him well, I let him go on. He was affected with my complacence, and without my asking him any questions, confessed that he had had the happiness of dining with the signora at a common acquaintance's of ours; that he had notice given him of this dinner, and that he had gone out in the morning to know if the party was not put off. I saw with grief, that my friend was running headlong to the precipice, and



I pitied him before-hand, for all the evils which I foresaw were going to fall upon him. Consider, said I, that others beside you keep company with this pretty girl, and that it is very probable they love her. How do you know but that in the number of her admirers, there is one whom she distinguishes? If so, you will give offence to that happy lover, and what will become of you then? He listened, groaned, and went away without saying one word.

THE following days were passed pretty well, we went to the opera, and saw the segnora, whom I found so amiable, and otherwise accomplished, that I could no longer blame my friend's attachment. However, as I am for directing my aim to a fixed point in all things, I endeavoured to penetrate into the consequences of this wretched passion. I artfully sounded some people who frequented

frequented the opera-house, and who consequently must be supposed to be pretty well acquainted with the anecdotes belonging to the singers. They all agreed that the beautiful signora had no lover. A conduct so singular astonished me, insomuch, that I could scarce give credit to what was told me. One of those whom I consulted said, that a proof of this girl's virtue was her not being rich; her extraordinary conduct is not to be accounted for; people of the first rank have undergone the mortification of her refusals, and it is generally thought that she has a secret inclination. I laughed at this old gentleman's reasoning. She is a fool, said an old libertine that listen'd very calmly, does it become such a girl as she to have a heart? let her have eyes and sense to gain money, and hands to receive it, and that is sufficient; this is what is proper for such a female as her ladyship, and

not a heart and inclination. I could not help smiling, and conceived an esteem for signora at the same time that I fancied mr. S—— would not succeed. There was but little probability that this belle would yield to a private gentleman, after having resisted several nobles, as amorous no doubt, and far richer. Nevertheless appearances gave soon the lie to my conjecture.

THE lovely signora gave S—— and me an invitation to come and see her ; I considered that my being included in the invitation was owing to nothing else than my being S——'s friend. I determined, however, to accompany him : I felt a certain pleasure in having an opportunity of seeing the signora, though my esteem from this moment was greatly diminished. We were not slow in compliance with the fair one's invitation. There were no marks of opulency to  
be

be seen in her habitation; every thing that offered to our view declared the place to be the residence of virtue. She received us with the most polite decency; she begged to know our names. S—— took this upon him; at the name of —— she looked me full in the face and then swooned away in my arms. We had a good deal of difficulty to bring her to herself again: I was under very great concern: I felt fears for the life of this lovely person that seized me without being able to conceive the cause. She opened her eyes, beautiful to admiration, and in that moment very languishing. She turned pale, and in appearance was going to fall into a second fainting fit; I then became desperate, and my endeavours to prevent any more faintings were so eager, that S—— believed I was become his rival, and this idea gave him as much concern as the condition in which he saw her.



In fine, she found herself better and was perfectly restored by degrees. She stretched out her hand to me; I kissed it; she drew it back, and threw herself at my feet. This motion so stupify'd both S—— and me, that we had no thoughts of raising her up. She remained long in the same posture. I at last remarked it, and wanted to have her seated. I saw she wept; I was moved, and mingled my tears with hers, without knowing for what reason I took so great part in her affliction. Who are you? said I, how came you to know me? by what fatality comes it to pass, that I am under so much concern for you?

ALAS, said she, sir, you are mr. ———, do you remember the unfortunate Lucinda? Yes, answered I, with an angry tone, as the most ungrateful of her sex. Ah, reply'd the signora, with a voice half smothered with

with heavy sighs, Lucinda was my mother, and— I would have you know, said I, interrupting her, that I am sorry such a girl as you seem to be, springs from so corrupted a source. She always assured me however, answered signora, that you was my father. At this word tears and sighs forced her to be silent. I could not withstand so moving a confession, and a mixture of pleasure, uncertainty, and regret, occasioned such a revolution in me, that I in my turn, was seized with a fainting fit. When I recovered out of it, I found myself in the arms of this dear daughter; (for she was such to my heart) we endeavoured to calm the agitation into which the force of nature had thrown us, and the signora thus continued her discourse.

You know, sir, that my mother had the misfortune to leave you,

and go into the country, where she kept the Cross-Keys in the town of ——. When she left London, she carried me in her womb; the fear of becoming dearer to you by my birth, and of not giving herself to a man whom she loved, obliged her to conceal from you her being with child; she made an elopement. I hurry over my mother's faults, nevertheless, if I should allow you time to reflect, you are too just to make me accountable for them. I came into the world in the same town of ——, five months after my mother settled in it. My imputed father had me baptized in your name, assuring the curate that this was his true name and that that which he went by, was no more than a nickname that had been given him. My mother was positive I should carry your name, and with justice, since she was already with child, when she fell acquainted with the person  
 who

who carried her off. I was put to nurse in a suburb of the town where my mother had great care taken of me. She never durst mention my birth to you, being apprehensive that you would look upon me as the fruit of her passion for another. When I had attained to the age of five years, I was brought to London, and put out to board. She came often alone, and on foot to see me, and only staid a minute or two; she thought a proper occasion offered of bringing me nearer you, and she laid hold of it. Alas! it was the cause of our misfortunes, and of her death.

LORD F—— your acquaintance, saw my mother often at your house, as they were conversing together one day, he told her that he wanted to execute a project of education which he had imagined, to render a young girl as learned as it is possible for a man to be; that he wanted a child



of six or seven years of age, of whom he would take all possible care. This tempted my mother to reveal her secret to lord F— who promised to keep it, and take upon him the charge of my education ; all which was punctually executed. You saw me sometimes then, and my mother always remembered with pleasure, the favourable things you said of me whenever you returned from lord F——'s. Unfortunately for us, he fell in love with my mother ; he told her of it, making large promises if she would leave you for him, but she was under the greatest obligations to you, and you had forgot her past faults in a manner to prevent her falling into any new ones.

Six months passed, during which he constantly solicited her to come and live with him, but to no purpose. About the expiration of the sixth month of fruitless endeavours  
on

on his part, (you was then at your feat, and he at his) he sent her word that if she did not come next morning at five to your gate with her waiting maid, whom he had gained, he would send me to the West-Indies, with a friend of his who was going there. You may judge of the embarras of a tender mother, and without assistance: the unfortunate Lucinda was tempted to let you know her case, but she knew your vivacity, and dreaded it. She foresaw that you would go immediately and demand me of my lord, and take me from him either by consent or force; she knew him to be obstinate, alas! what man is not so when he is in love, she left you therefore in order to preserve me; she chose rather to be guilty of a new crime, than to see, perhaps, one friend dip his hands in the blood of another.

WE remained together six months at lord F——'s, at the expiration whereof, he took my mother over with him into France; they passed the winter at Paris, and then returned here. Upon his return, he became acquainted with the duke of ——'s mistress, and made the proper dispositions for going abroad with her. He took from my mother and me, the greatest part of what he had given us, signifying at the same time, that he intended to leave us behind.

THE very evening on which he made that terrible declaration, the duke being in the country, he carried off his belle, and left England, to which he durst not return since. Next morning, my mother, upon getting out of bed, was apprized of this misfortune. Her whole stock consisted of about twenty pounds  
and

and some cloaths. Lord F——'s people having omitted satisfying some tradesmen's bills, she paid them, and had then only six pounds remaining. It is needless to excite your compassion of our unhappy situation by moving reflections, the bare recital conveys an idea of its horror. My mother remained with six pounds, without resource, without friends, and almost without acquaintance: An actress, whom I succeeded, named signora P—, who had been acquainted with us formerly, could not hear of the treatment we had received, without the utmost indignation, and was so generous as to take us to her house. My mother was pretty much mistress of Italian, and had a tolerable good voice; signora P—— recommended her, and she was received into some concerts where she got wherewith to subsist with honour. She loved ease, we lived commodiously, but saved nothing,



thing; I was destined to the same trade, but I had little or no voice; signora P—— formed me however for the stage, and made me an actress. Novelty pleases in all countries; my first appearance was brilliant; I was extolled above the greatest actresses in the world; every thing seemed perfection in me, even to my very blunders and grimaces. I studied hard, and in the sequel became less applauded, though I deserved it more: At length, my benefactrix died. Necessity made me be found excellent, and I succeeded her upon the stage with success. My mother then left off singing; such a fatiguing employment had been extremely hurtful to her breast, she languished for three years and then died, recommending to me to seek all opportunities of making myself known to you, sir, and to quit the stage if ever you were so good as to do any thing for me.

SIG-

SIGNORA —, here ended her narration, shedding abundance of tears. She presented afterwards a little box in which I found a baptismal certificate, two rings and my picture set with diamonds, which her mother had still kept, notwithstanding the misery to which she was reduced. At the sight of proofs so convincing, I could not contain my joy ; I took my Lucilla in my arms, (for that was her name) and loaded her with the most tender careffes.

LIBERTINISM never loses any thing, and often gets the better of sentiment. A proof of this is, that looking on Lucilla, and finding her so lovely, I was vexed that she was my daughter ; however reason, and the pleasure of being a father, soon destroyed this idea, and I loved as a parent this charming daughter. She was pretty well lodged, and offered

ferred us her apartments, but I did not think proper to accept of them. I was with mr. S——, who could not decently lodge in her house. We therefore remained where we were, only I sent my cook to my daughter's, and we went regularly there to eat. I desired she would give notice immediately, that she was to quit the stage. I had no occasion to tell mr. S—— that I could not allow of his making love to my daughter; he considered of himself that this must be the case, spoke no more of his passion for her, and thought of his affairs. And thus ended this adventure.

C H A P.

## C H A P. III.

*The story resumed. A struggle between love and vanity. A lively picture of female resentment.*

**A**N accident however, of a very singular kind, and which arose in the main from the natural giddiness of my disposition, changed all of a sudden the situation of affairs; and yet this was so far from turning out to my advantage, that in the sequel it proved the means of bereaving me of all my hope. Ever since I had made my court to the marchioness, I became very indifferent with respect to lady Susan; if I wrote to her, which was but seldom, the stile was so cool, that to a woman of any reflection, it seemed rather a confirmed proof of my inconstancy than any pledge of my attachment. But here was the misfortune



fortune, that though she could not but perceive that my affections were estranged, she herself had gone too far to be able to recede, and set herself in earnest to love me.

THE letters she was continually writing, breathed an air of tenderness which might be expected from a new born passion, rather than from a connection which had subsisted for some time. The stile of them was passionate; they were a mixture of despair and reproaches; and it did not require an inamorato to be persuaded they were the dictates of the goddess of love. One of the heap with which she was daily perplexing me, seemed to me to redound so much to the marchioness's honour, and the tender invectives that were very liberally scattered throughout it, seemed so peculiarly proper to persuade my present flame of the sincerity of my attachment, that I brought

brought myself to believe, that if I could prevail on her to read it, it would produce a wonderful effect. I pleased myself with the thought, and determined to make use of the first opportunity to put it in practice. Accordingly, the next time I found the marchioness alone, I let the letter drop out of my pocket designedly, and took my leave of her immediately. The contents of it were as follows :

“ I HAVE always hitherto been  
 “ of opinion, that your behavi-  
 “ our was the effect of your natu-  
 “ ral inconstancy, and have conse-  
 “ quently been supported by the  
 “ hope of bringing you sooner or  
 “ later to a right sense of things, but  
 “ the account I have just received,  
 “ has even bereaved me of this slen-  
 “ der hope, by acquainting me with  
 “ the real situation I am in, I mean  
 “ the being discarded.

You

“ You are in love with the mar-  
 “ chioness of —, nay, adore her,  
 “ and by way of compleating my  
 “ misfortunes, your treachery and  
 “ baseness to me, is owing to her  
 “ excellencies and accomplishments.  
 “ You seem to have actually assumed  
 “ a new existence, by putting on  
 “ thus a new garb of passion; you  
 “ have at least got another heart,  
 “ and another method of thinking.  
 “ Her severity and preciseness, which  
 “ would formerly have been the ob-  
 “ ject of your ridicule and aversion,  
 “ are now become, in a manner,  
 “ the cement of your affections;  
 “ you love her for her discretion,  
 “ and adore her for her cruelty.  
 “ Alas! what are become of those  
 “ halcyon days, in which, being  
 “ more reasonable, more just, and  
 “ more happy than you are at pre-  
 “ sent, you never suffered any new  
 “ conquest to interfere with your  
 “ former engagements. Beloved as  
 “ you

“ you were, and publickly noted for  
 “ inconstancy, your behaviour did  
 “ not then give any pain to your mis-  
 “ tresses whom you forsook, and for  
 “ this plain reason, they were con-  
 “ vinced in their own minds that  
 “ they must lose you sooner or later,  
 “ and therefore accustomed them-  
 “ selves by degrees, to the idea of  
 “ this loss ; besides, that you always  
 “ retained a sort of gratitude for  
 “ them, which made them forget  
 “ that you no longer appeared as a  
 “ lover. But at what distance is that  
 “ period ! the marchioness has blot-  
 “ ted out of your remembrance, both  
 “ your failings and accomplishments.  
 “ You think, live and move only for  
 “ her.

“ My eyes are now fixed on that  
 “ very place, in which your solemn  
 “ protestations first induced me to  
 “ give credit to you ; it is now, alas !  
 “ only the grave of my happiness.  
 “ Why



“ Why may not I substitute in my  
 “ room, my fortunate rival? who  
 “ has thus deprived me of your af-  
 “ fections. The similitude between  
 “ her situation, and what was once  
 “ mine, would be, perhaps, a means  
 “ of soothing my anxiety, at least,  
 “ I should have a gleam of hope for  
 “ my comfort. But what am I  
 “ saying! would you not be conti-  
 “ nually thinking on my utter inca-  
 “ pacity of presenting you with any  
 “ thing new? Can a fluttering, gay,  
 “ inconstant coxcomb, who longs  
 “ only to compleat the scenes of  
 “ perfidy he has begun, bear the  
 “ thoughts of returning to an un-  
 “ fortunate object, who has only  
 “ love and virtue to offer to his ac-  
 “ ceptance. Have I then lost you  
 “ for ever! Is this at last the poor  
 “ reward of the tenderest passion e-  
 “ ver felt! and must the only ad-  
 “ vantage I have reaped from the  
 “ loving you, be the most hearty  
 “ detesta-

“ detestation of that passion for the  
 “ future !”

My scheme succeeded as well as I could wish ; the marchioness read the letter, and gave it that sort of attention which a woman ought never to do when she would avoid falling in love. I soon found that she had met with something to rouse her from her indifference.

EVERY little circumstance betrays a woman who has once begun to betray herself. She had never hitherto lent a willing ear to my proposals ; she now began to listen to me, and told me at the same time what little credit she gave to the violence of my protestations. I knew very well that a woman of sense, who has determined not to be convinced, always takes care to avoid the opportunities of being so, and does not so much as intimate her distrust, because such  
 distrust

distrust must take its rise from a principle very nearly resembling that of love, if it is not that passion itself. I took the advantage of the suddenness of the marchioness's change of temper, and led her on by degrees till the only resource she had left to fly to was her modesty.

I GOT ground daily, and was within reach of flattering myself on a compleat victory. I soon perceived, that however the marchioness might for some little time have been the object of my affections, yet she now only served to interest my vanity. Every body that came to the house could not fail of perceiving that the marchioness was in love with me, and did not doubt, but I might win her whenever I pleased. My vanity now attached me with more force than ever ; I felt myself ashamed of having employed so much time in the conquest of one woman,  
and

and the only method I could think of to repair this dilatory misconduct, was by using my utmost efforts to the total defeat of the marchioness, and the re-establishment of my reputation. Every trivial circumstance contributes to the betraying a man, who considers the having been in love without success, as a blot in his escutcheon. The marchioness well knew that it was owing to her extreme weakness that I was grown so intolerably vain; she became from thence forward, melancholy and thoughtful, more upon the reserve, and yet more tender than heretofore. I used often to talk to her of the earnest desire I felt to be permitted to return to my native country, that I might have an opportunity of convincing her how far I prized her, even above that desirable incident.

SHE did not make any replies to the numberless protestations I was continually



continually pouring forth, but her eyes plainly told me she was fully persuaded, that the day on which I should receive that joyful intelligence would be most welcome to me, and one of the greatest misfortunes that could happen to her. Situated as she was, the reader will easily imagine that she was not very forward to second my designs upon her. At last, however, the day which she had lived so long in apprehension of came; I begged the favour of an interview with her for a quarter of an hour, and began with acquainting her of the pardon I had just procured, and consequently of the permission granted me to return home. At length, said I, my banishment is at an end; but the use, alas, which you are constraining me to make of my liberty, will prove a considerable allay to those transports which I expected to feel, and which indeed I have a right to expect from the enjoyment  
of

of so valuable a privilege. What a tenderness, what complacency, what happiness should I have felt in being permitted to live with you ; it would have been infallibly recorded among the several triumphs which you have already got over me. The most considerable advantage with which it would have furnished me, would have been an opportunity of convincing you how dear you were to me, by the value of the blessing I surrendered to your charms. You cannot surely be ignorant that I had made such a determination ; alas, what a melancholy recompence are you giving me for the many protestations I have made ; I am now removed at a greater distance than ever from your confidence, and from the return which you should have made to the sincerity I have shewn. Must I then part with you, and for ever ! Good God, what torment does the very thought bring along with it.

Must the only use resulting from my having been your admirer, be the learning from henceforward to endeavour to forget you? can so much love end in so much disquiet; and hath nature made you so amiable in order only to render me more completely miserable?

THE marchioness's outward behaviour was a strong confirmation of the anxiety she felt within, and how little uneasiness would it have given me to have discovered the whole imposture, and by that means to have prevented the ills which she afterwards suffered. In truth I was moved a good deal at the situation I saw her in, but this emotion turned out wholly to my own advantage, without suggesting, in the least, any thought of relieving her. The time she took up in indulging her melancholy reflections before she gave me any answer, furnished me with an opportunity

opportunity of thinking to such purpose, that the determination which proved the result, was the luckiest I ever made, and in the sequel constituted the happiness of my life.

IT is to the marchioness that I am indebted for the present happiness I enjoy, since it was her virtues and her cruelties, to the full mortification and punishment of which, I wholly gave her up, that brought me to a right sense of things. I shall ever think myself bound to her in gratitude for this favour, and by this time, I imagine she has got the better of her love; and indeed she herself has very lately assured me of it by way of letter. But to return to my narration.

THE marchioness looked on me with a great deal of tenderness, and made no manner of reply. I concluded that she would not have been



silent so long, had she been disposed  
 to favour me in the least, and think-  
 ing that it was in my power to com-  
 pose her entirely, I told her, that she  
 seemed not to be altogether insensi-  
 ble of my grief, and that from the  
 perplexity I beheld, I began to flat-  
 ter myself she was determining to  
 make me amends for all the hard-  
 ships which I had suffered from her  
 cruelty ; but how great was my a-  
 stonishment when instead of answer-  
 ing my expectations, I saw her get-  
 ting up and preparing to leave me  
 without saying a single syllable.  
 What, said I, taking her by the  
 hand, is this all the comfort that you  
 are capable of giving me? are you  
 determined to drive me to despair?  
 at least, madam, be pleased to con-  
 sider the melancholy situation to which  
 you are reducing me, and let pity  
 extort what you seem resolved to  
 deny, to a much nobler passion:  
 What answer would you have me  
 give

give you, said the marchioness, in a very melancholy tone of voice, she stopped short of a sudden, and then immediately added, go sir, my determination is made, I will neither see nor hear you any longer ; I will write to you when you get to England, my letter will inform you of certain circumstances which will teach you to forbear reproaching me so exactly, and which perfidious as you have been and are, you are nevertheless under an obligation to conceal. All your endeavours to meet or converse with me for the future will be ineffectual. As soon as she had said this, she went out of the room, and all my utmost efforts, during two whole days, to find her, were, as she had indeed told me, fruitless.

## C H A P. IV.

*An expostulatory letter. An interesting adventure.*

**T**H E ill success of my search, would soon have cured me of the melancholy occasioned by her discourse, but still there was something behind; it was indeed very trifling, and even this all-healing time soon got the better of, inasmuch that when I sat out on my return, I felt indeed a sorrow, but it was of that kind, which is occasioned by the parting with a woman by whom one knows one's self beloved, nay, whom we have loved ourselves; but from which passion, no advantage has as yet been reaped. She kept her word with me very exactly, and within two days after my arrival in London, I received the following letter from her.

What

“ **W**HAT have I done in pro-  
 “ mising to write to you?  
 “ What weakness has got the better  
 “ of me? infomuch that it can in-  
 “ duce me to lay aside all thoughts  
 “ of honour and reputation. Have  
 “ you not already sufficiently tri-  
 “ umphed over my understanding?  
 “ and must I alledge this as a con-  
 “ firmation and proof that you have  
 “ done so? Must this, the only step  
 “ that was wanting to ruin me, be  
 “ still taken? Alas! to what a situ-  
 “ ation did I find myself reduced!  
 “ What am I? or what shall I be-  
 “ come? Love— Oh, heavens! am  
 “ I able to pronounce the direful  
 “ name? Can I bring myself to the  
 “ resolution of owning a weakness,  
 “ which nothing but the excess of  
 “ despair can justify!

“ **T**HUS are you made acquainted  
 “ with the passion I felt for you.



“ What a use will you now make  
 “ of the indiscretion I have been  
 “ guilty of! Have you at least ho-  
 “ nour enough to see and own it  
 “ for the work of your own hands,  
 “ and to respect it accordingly? The  
 “ incoherence of my letter, may de-  
 “ note to you the anxiety of the  
 “ heart that dictates it; alas! this  
 “ heart was never designed to bear  
 “ such cruel disappointments, such  
 “ racking pains. It had for some  
 “ time been discreet, been happy,  
 “ been honoured: but you have  
 “ now made it my most bitter ad-  
 “ versary. Before my acquaintance  
 “ with you, my situation was truly  
 “ happy; a little discretion, and a  
 “ great deal of reasoning, made me  
 “ indifferent to every one, and se-  
 “ cured me from the attacks of e-  
 “ very thing that could molest me.  
 “ The composure of my mind, my  
 “ reflections, and innocent pleasures  
 “ even made my duties put on the  
 “ air

“ air of amusements ; my punctual  
 “ compliance with them was atten-  
 “ ded with no regret, for I had no-  
 “ thing with which they ever came  
 “ in competition.

“ BUT alas ! these halcyon days  
 “ are fled, and in all probability,  
 “ will never return. Ever since I  
 “ have begun to love, a most deadly  
 “ poison seems to have spread itself  
 “ throughout me, at least a poison  
 “ to my happiness ; every thing  
 “ seems changed ; the retirement I  
 “ live in, was before I knew you, a  
 “ scene of continual delight, a scene  
 “ of perpetual innocence ; I now  
 “ only behold it in the view of a  
 “ prudent system : I walk from mor-  
 “ ning to night in those walks where  
 “ you have so often deceived me,  
 “ and endeavour to seek in them  
 “ the complacency and comfort that  
 “ I was wont ; and yet even against  
 “ my own inclinations, I constantly

“ perceive that it is some remem-  
 “ brance of you that I am seeking  
 “ after. If heaven would pardon  
 “ this extreme weakness, on account  
 “ of the extraordinary anxieties I  
 “ have felt ; if I could at least set  
 “ in opposition to my pains, the sa-  
 “ tisfaction of being beloved ; if all  
 “ those virtues of which you have  
 “ bereaved me, could but inspire  
 “ you with right notions and senti-  
 “ ments of things, so comfortable  
 “ a reflection would take off the  
 “ poignancy, and abate somewhat  
 “ of my afflictions : but these are  
 “ the only portion, these are the on-  
 “ ly memorials which you have left  
 “ me of yourself.

“ INHUMAN wretch, couldst thou  
 “ be ignorant of the misfortunes to  
 “ which thou wert going to expose  
 “ me ; the difficulties you have met  
 “ with in making any impresson  
 “ upon me, must surely have con-  
 “ vinced

“vinced you of it; since you knew  
 “me so well, since you could not  
 “but be sensible, that even the most  
 “trifling advantage that you would  
 “gain over me, would be a misfor-  
 “tune greatly heightened by the  
 “character of the person who had  
 “been the occasion of it. Ought  
 “you not at least to have left me in  
 “possession of my virtues, or at least  
 “to have given me up your failings?  
 “no, such an action as this would  
 “have been too generous, and  
 “actions of this kind I have been  
 “taught never to expect from you;  
 “Generosity is a virtue, that people  
 “of your vain turn of mind, sel-  
 “dom if ever put in practice. But I  
 “indulge these reflections too long;  
 “my letter I doubt not begins to be  
 “tedious; I must therefore hasten  
 “to a conclusion. Farewell, sir,  
 “remember sometimes the misera-  
 “ble situation to which you have  
 “reduced me, and think that this  
 “ was



“ was not the effect of my deserts,  
 “ but of your arbitrary will. You  
 “ have embittered the remainder of  
 “ my life, but this I can easily for-  
 “ give you in the present instance,  
 “ if it haply prove a means of pre-  
 “ venting you from a repetition of  
 “ those cruelties which may with  
 “ reason be apprehended from a per-  
 “ son of your disposition.”

THIS letter affected me a good  
 deal, and led me for some time into  
 that train of thoughts which the  
 subject naturally suggested; indeed  
 I perceived that it made impressions  
 upon me from which it was in my  
 power to draw a considerable ad-  
 vantage; but as the amusements I  
 had frequented, and the parties I  
 had engaged in since my return to  
 England, prevented my paying a  
 proper attention to them, all the use  
 I made was the recollection that I  
 was

was a considerable loser by not having improved them properly.

I HAVE mentioned my amusements, and it may not perhaps be improper, or unentertaining to the reader, to give him a specimen of them, by recounting some adventures that befel me in my pursuit after pleasure. I was one evening with a friend of mine at the opera; he was very well versed in the secret history of that place, and our conversation ran upon the intrigues of the actresses. It may easily be believed that it was long and entertaining; he made me take notice of a lady among them, whom I shall here call by the feigned name of Lucinda, that I may not incur the displeasure of so respectable a body, as that of the chorus nymphs. He asked my opinion of her, I answered coldly, that she appeared to be tolerably handsome. My friend knew that one  
participates

participates always of the glory or dishonour of the society to which they belong, and he was sensible that what he had recited before, would not dispose me in favour of this belle, for which reason he told me, that I must not confound her with the others, from whom she greatly differed; that she was a girl of distinction, who joined modesty to her other accomplishments, and whom mere necessity had forced to put up with a profession unworthy of her birth and sentiments. I asked him if he knew her; he told me, without thinking I suppose, that he did not, and it was perhaps the only time in his life that he had made such a confession. His sincerity affected me, and made me desirous of a nearer view of this opera Phœnix; but Strickland, for that was my friend's name, perceived a woman of quality in a box adjoining to that where we were. He had the honour of adding to the  
number

number of bad authors whom she protected, and he left me to go and pay his court to her.

I PERCEIVED at a little distance from me, the reverend mr. D——, a bright wit in his own conceit, and who like many others, had more good luck than science; I listened for some time to his jumbled discourse about the opera, and I could perceive a great many fots who took him for a man of consequence, because he beat time with his cane. When he had fully decided, without knowing wherefore, and with that sufficiency which the ecclesiastic habit gives always to those who are unworthy of it, I attacked him and proved in a few words, that he was as bad a critic as he had thought himself a good author. My reasoning was just, for it made him silent: a moment after he spoke to me of several actors, and as he was apprehensive



henfive of being refuted, he engaged me to give my opinion before he rifqued his: what man is proof againft complaifance? that of this clergyman flattered me fo far, that I forgot he was much defpifed, and ftill lefs than he was defpicable; that it was not many years fince he came to London without merit, and which is worfe, without money; that having no knowledge of the world, he had turned his thoughts to the church, hoping to conceal himfelf more eafily, that the habit under which he had flattered himfelf to remain unknown, had on the contrary ferved to make him remarkable; that at firft he was a moft humble dependant, afterwards a friend, in fine, comrade and advifer of fome young men of quality; that they had raifed his fortune in acknowledgment of the fervices he had rendered them in their pleafures; and that, in fhort, finding more refources in the world,

which

which he dreaded, than in the rubbish of a school where he at first intended to bury himself, he had assumed the title of a man of letters, a title formerly in high esteem, but now so common and so despicable, that it is indifferently ascribed to the man of learning, and the smatterer. I found that he joined a sweetness of temper to a good deal of politeness: I was taken with his conversation; he perceived it, and made incredible efforts to tell me pretty things; he succeeded, because I was already prepossessed in his favour.

LUCINDA appeared again, I spoke to her; he knew her and commended her highly. She shared with her mother and sister a second story in Tavistock Street, near Covent Garden; she had been in the opera about six months, and her sister was now making interest to be admitted. These two girls had received from  
nature,

nature, graces and talents which seemed to prognosticate great adventures. Without being ignorant of the value of these advantages, they had judgment enough to consider, that merit without protection makes a very slow progress, which had determined them to come under that of mr. D——, who for a certain consideration took upon him to put their charms in a proper light, and to raise them to a just value in the opinion of the world. I was not informed of this scheme till long after it was settled; he only told me in general, that he had got Lucinda into the opera, and that she deserved the protection of those who could serve her. He related in a moving and ample manner, the misfortunes that had reduced the family of this young woman; I did not conceal the part I took in her unhapy fate, nor my readiness to oblige a girl so lovely and worthy of esteem; upon which he  
 began

began new encomiums, and I new offers of service, in fine, we parted promising to meet again.

A FEW days after, one morning, he did me the favour of a visit; I asked him news of our lovely Lucinda. He told me he had informed her of the particulars of our conversation, that she was much obliged to me for the concern I expressed with regard to her unhappy fate, and that she had begged of him to come and return me thanks in her name, not daring to come herself. I told him she was much to blame, and next day at eleven, whom should I see popping in, but Lucinda and her sister, introduced by mr. D——. They presented themselves with an alluring modesty; the first compliments were formal and serious, but the conversation by degrees enlivened, and became more entertaining, and it was pushed so far as was necessary



cessary to give me authority to propose a dinner without ceremony, which was accepted in the same manner as offered. We diverted ourselves mighty well; good-humour and soft smiles were visible in every face. As it was extremely hot, I proposed that the ladies should throw off their capuchins (which said word capuchins, inasmuch as to the modern reader it may seem an antiquated word, be it known to him that cardinals were not then come into vogue, perhaps only in embryo in the brain of some celebrated fashion leader,) but they excused themselves, however at the desert they threw them by without being desired. Two glasses of champaign made them forget a counterfeit air of modesty that was more troublesome to themselves than me; Lucinda then offered to my sight beauties that charmed me, she perceived it, first blushed, then laughed. In fine, night approached,

ed, and away they went ; I had only time to whisper Lucinda in the ear, that I would gladly have the pleasure of seeing her alone.

SHE appointed next Tuesday, and was punctual. For this time we dined *tete a tete*, and it is easy to guess what was the subject of our conversation. I spoke of love, and she of her misfortunes ; she was quite disgusted with the opera, and yet obliged to stick to it, having no other resource. Besides, her mother was a woman intractable, and like other mothers who often think it their indispensable duty to contradict and tyrannise over their children, in order to preserve, as they are pleased to think, their reputation, would hear of no method of life for getting her bread, than what suited her own humour best ; and though Lucinda had again and again represented the danger of belonging to the opera, yet

yet by no means would she hear of her leaving it, upon the whimsical maxim of virtue's having no merit where it is not put to a trial and triumphs.

I BELIEVED all this, how could I doubt it, when I loved the person who spoke it? Lucinda repeated the same thing twenty times in as many different manners. At length I proposed to her without ceremony, to quit her mother, and to take a little apartment which I would furnish for her, and where I would take care that she should find all sorts of necessaries. The condescending fair not willing to trouble herself with refusing, nor me with pressing, frankly accepted my offers, and as the sensation of gratitude is lively and quick in great and generous souls, my proposal was paid with a declaration of love. I seemed to doubt of what was said, but I received half proofs  
and

and promises to compleat them in the new apartment, where I was bespoken to sup the first night of her instalment.

THE hour of the opera came, and I conducted Lucinda, who was not a little proud of arriving there in a gentleman's coach. From thence I went to hire an apartment in Maddox-Street. I agreed with an upholsterer to furnish it, and all was ready on the third day. I had Lucinda conducted to her new habitation, and I did not arrive till two hours afterwards, being willing that she should have time to examine the whole extent of my generosity, and from thence be prompted to give me proofs of her gratitude. After the encomiums of two such illustrious personages as Mr. Strickland and Mr. D——, I ought not to have been in any doubt about the character of this theatrical goddess; but I was in love,  
and



and it is well known that where the case is so, the more we desire to be happy, the higher our fears rise of being disappointed.

I WENT early to Lucinda's, who received me in her new habitation, as people are wont to receive an intimate friend, when they know how to do the honours that civility requires. After reiterated thanks for all my favours, began a conversation upon the lady's illustrious ancestors: the pleasure of seeing her made me bear the fatigue of a long dull genealogical account of her ladyship's race; but at the same time augmented the impatience I was under to reap the fruits of my labour. I introduced the subject of my love, upon which a lively representation was made of a great confidence in my probity, which alone occasioned the acceptance of my proposals, persuaded that I would not make a bad use of  
the

the right to which my generous liberalities might with justice lay claim. All this was said in that solemn manner and dignity, with which the stage inspires its princesses. I was filly enough to be affected at this theatrical declamation, and without replying, I very thankfully kissed Lucinda's hand. Supper was served, not sumptuous, but delicate ; I ordered but a few dishes filled with good things, and as I paid ready money, I was well served.

LUCINDA did the honours as mistress of the feast, in such a manner, as made me judge that she felt no regret for leaving her mother's house. When supper was ended and every thing removed, we were left alone, and both of us found ourselves in higher spirits and more merrily disposed, than when we sat down to table. My fair's whole domesticks, consisted of one woman, who acted

in the capacity of chambermaid and cook by turns ; she was recommended by my valet as his cousin, but as she was pretty, there was room to think that they were not so near relations, as to be weary of one another's company ; and therefore I had the less dread of being interrupted. My love took up my whole thoughts, and my tongue could utter nothing else.

LUCINDA endeavoured artfully to avoid answering me, but I took her silence, for a constant acknowledgement of a sincere return which she thought due to my affection, and I acted consequentially. I could read in her bright eyes, that she was charmed with her situation and that she loved me ; that she dreaded the violence of my passion, but still more of her being forced by its enchanting power to make me happy. I observed—but in short what signifies multiplying

tipling words ; let it be sufficient to inform the reader, that I was as happy as I could wish. So soon as my love gave her some respite, Lucinda began to shed tears. Her grief surprised me at first, and afterwards affected me ; in short I participated of it without knowing the motive of it, but I did not long remain in ignorance. Presence of mind in the most critical circumstances, is the highest accomplishment, and she was mistress of this rare talent. She had not forgot that it was highly important for her to persuade me, that my late triumph was her first defeat, and it was for this reason, that she gave tears to the remembrance, though remote, of her lost innocence.

THE stratagem succeeded, I was credulous, and my gratitude was proportioned to the idea I had of her favours. The present I made her, restored her to her former gaiety, and



it was but too evident, from her situation, that he who had originally acted the same scene with her had not been so generous, perhaps he was wiser and less amorous. From that day we lived together in a perfect good correspondence, my passion augmented, and my money visibly diminished. In fine tho' I was supplied with much more money than I ought to have been, I soon found my purse empty, and never had seen so disagreeable a sight before.



## C H A P. V.

*The History goes backward. The  
Author's first setting out in life.  
An intrigue.*

AS I am a rambling sort of a chap, and have had no order or regularity in the conduct of my life, it will not be at all surprizing, that I do not observe much in the relating of it. The reader must excuse me, therefore, if I do not adhere to the chain of events, but relate them as they come into my thoughts; for instance, altho' the progress I have made in my history, would naturally lead any one to conclude, that I was far advanced in my narrative, I shall take the liberty of carrying my reader back to a transaction of my youth, and that for the sake of recounting, what I am in hopes will prove not an unentertaining adventure.

I WAS setting out from a distant county for London, and had accordingly taken a place in the stage-coach, to which I repaired. At my arrival, they were preparing to set out ; I took my place without saying a word, or observing any one. All the objects I had so lately left were present before my eyes, and took up my thoughts sufficiently. Several of the passengers entered the coach, whom I bowed to, but took no further notice of ; I wonder what they thought of my distracted looks ; the horses were put to, we were just going off, and the persons who came to see their friends take coach having bid their adieus, we were got out of the yard, when the master of the inn desired the coachman to stop and alight ; they opened the door, I saw the whole transaction without giving attention to it, being totally buried in a profound reverie. Some time passed

passed between this and our going off, at last two females arrived, who came into the coach, one of whom seated herself next me. I made her a cool compliment out of mere custom ; the other placed herself next the door, which when they had shut, we proceeded on our journey. It is impossible the soul should always remain in the same state of thinking ; 'tis better to avoid it, for it is a bow that should not always be bent. I at last awoke from my lethargy, and fixed my eyes on those persons who were directly opposite, and whose pictures I immediately took. 'Tis one of my favourite amusements, to find out the inclinations and characters of persons by their faces, and use has made me a tolerable proficient in the science.

A PLUMP well fed clergyman sat in the right corner of the seat opposite mine, he appeared to be about fifty,



his eyes were lively and fuitable to his jolly countenance, and his conversation remarkably complaisant; his mouth preached up the use it was designed for, and at table maintained that good cheer greatly surpassed all other pleasures. On his left sat an usurer, whose haggard eyes seemed to envy all they looked on, he appeared to have been all his life the scourge to conversation, and fond of contradiction; his behaviour was as insipid as his person, and he never made a motion, but what was full of spite and malice. At the door on my side was a restless officer, whose eyes twinkled incessantly, and eyelids were in perpetual motion; all his features kept time to their movements, for they were constantly in agitation; he seemed to be very fond of his sweet self, and never spoke but somewhat was introduced to his own advantage; he had seen every thing, been every where, was ever the adviser of successful

successful operations, and saw the event of such as proved otherwise ten years before they happen'd. A young lady in a blue damask, sat next him, her features were tolerable, but attracted the eye no longer than to let you see they would not bear examining ; mine were drawn to the other side of the coach, by the chattering of a man of forty years of age, more than by any design of continuing my review ; he had a ruddy face beset with Bacchanalian pimples, to which deity, I believe, he paid his devoirs ; he laughed incessantly at his own silly jests ; had a smattering for puns and limping rhimes, which he ever applauded with an open mouth'd grin.

His neighbour at least forty, to which her countenance bore undeniable evidence, would frequently insinuate, tho' to no purpose, that she was but twenty two ; she appeared

an enemy to her whole sex, and would faint away when any one in conversation extolled a pretty woman: Her character, which was painted to the life in her features, drew my eyes, which she perceiving, a prodigious alteration ensued; for her eyes softened in spite of the sourness natural to them; they opened and shut, she put her tongue out and licked her livid lips; then pinched, bit, and wiped them; to this succeeded a forced smile, which opened her nostrils, shortened her chin, and made her visage resemble that of an amorous old satyr seeking the embraces of a nymph. These contortions frightened me so, I turned away from her and looked on my neighbour, whose face I could not then come at, her back being a little towards me, for she leaned into the corner of the coach, having entirely covered her face with her hood. I was going to fall asleep, when a deep sigh she  
 fetched

fetched, stopped me, and excited  
 my curiosity, and the compassion I  
 always feel for the unfortunate. She  
 was dressed in blue damask, and ap-  
 peared to me well made ; her hand-  
 kerchief being flung negligently over  
 her shoulders, disclosed a skin of a  
 most beautiful and transcendent white-  
 ness ; her hair was as black as jet ;  
 one of her hands was bare, which by  
 its whiteness and delicacy, gave me  
 room to believe it belonged to a  
 person of no common rank ; a most  
 beautiful diamond she had on her  
 finger, confirmed this suspicion.  
 These silent witnesses declare a great  
 deal.

Soon after she stirred a little,  
 which gave me a faint glimpse of  
 her face. I felt myself moved with-  
 out knowing the reason ; 'twas not  
 the beauties I found, but a certain  
 sort of I don't know what, which is  
 past my skill to describe, but yet  
 made



made so deep an impression on my heart, that my desire grew much stronger of seeing the whole. Fortune soon favoured me ; a sudden jolt which frightened and flung her on my side opened her hood, I saw her face, and beheld at the same time, that it was full of charms. The surprize I was in made me withdraw my arms suddenly, she perceived my concern, fetched a sigh, and fell to her seat. We arrived at the place where we were to dine, without her or my bearing any share in the conversation of the company ; I heard not one word out of six, and though their frequent and loud peals of laughter often roused me, yet I soon relapsed into my reverie. Those who were in the greatest haste got out first, and left me and my neighbour behind ; I had just time to recover from my amazement, when a servant asked us to alight. A secret inclination drew me to this lady

dy ; whether through compaffion for her condition, or the effects of her beauty, I was greatly moved to affift her ; I jumped out and gave her my hand, which ſhe took with ſo much politeneſs that it redoubled my attention. As I found her weak, and ſcarce able to walk, I asked her what might be her diſorder ? ſhe replied, that ſhe was juſt recovered of a tedious illneſs, and by the advice of phyſicians was ordered to change the air. I ſeemed to believe her, but with a ſort of diffidence which ſhe had too much good ſenſe not to perceive ; ſhe looked ſtedfaſtly on me, but I waved the affair, by asking what ſhe could eat ; ſhe answered all was indifferent, for that ſhe had no appetite to eat any thing. But madam, replied I, you muſt live and not be ſo dejected ; you are too charming not to live, and I muſt take care of you ; you are the ſecond lady I have travelled with under

der these circumstances, the first I saved, for I am a physician, but as each has his maxims, I only meddle with the infirmities of the heart, and value myself on the knowledge of them; if you submit to my directions you'll certainly find benefit. She replied with a smile full of charms, that I was too young for a confidante, but in desperate cases, added she, with a sigh, we must make use of desperate remedies.

RAVISHED with her manner of uttering these few words, I handed her into the room intended for our dinner, and seated her in an easy chair I reached for that purpose, the only one in the place, whose mournful rags evidenced its antiquity. The clergyman, whom I mentioned, selected me from the rest, (I suppose on account of my dress, which was gay enough) to go with him and bespeak dinner; says he, we must  
make

make a sure bargain, for these rogues of inn-keepers are such harpies, they'll make us pay dear for a starving meal ; he then gave us a long tale of all the extortions they practise, and concluded with saying, it was reasonable we should prevent them, and that for his part, he did not like to be dieted ; then looking upon us with an hungry mien, told us, that travelling with such as loved to live, was the greatest happiness he could wish for, and in short, he took good cheer to be the most solid pleasure in life. I thanked him in a particular manner, for the preference he gave me, and told him I should leave the management entirely to him, and that I did not doubt but the whole company would approve my choice in a man whose air must satisfy them of his capacity in such a commission. Every body seemed to consent to my determination except the usurer, who loved contradiction  
too



too well to think as the rest did. He said with a surly countenance, that the time would be soon over, when one travelled the stomach should be adjusted to the purse. But the clergyman not thinking him worthy a reply, went to bespeak the dinner, and in going seemed to pity the usurer's way of thinking, which would have delighted me at another time; but I was too much taken up with the care of my beautiful neighbour to enjoy these incidents. She sat near a good fire being very cold when she first came in, which soon revived her colour and made her appear much more beautiful than when I first saw her. My young heart, till now proof against the effects of love, was so sensibly touched for this unknown fair, that I scarce knew what I did.

THEY served up the dinner and we seated ourselves at the table ; I  
took

took my place close by my charming neighbour, and from this day commenced her humble servant ; she received my little offices with an air of satisfaction that charmed me more and more ; she eat but very little, rallied me very agreeably, by asking me if it was the practice of the maxims in the science I told her I was master of, that prevented my eating ; I answered her briskly I will eat, and insist (picking out some niceties) that you do the same. There was no room to press our fellow travellers, for they fought their parts so well, that in a short time the plates were cleared, but the usurer who preached up moderation, fairly devoured his share and made a most horrible smacking with his chops. I tipt the wink to my neighbour, who smiled ; but the features of the madam who sat at the door, surpassed us all. Her eyes ogled the men all round, but at last were fixed on me, by the passion she

she entertained for my finery and youth ; her thoughts were signalized by a disdain she conceived for the lady to whom I paid my respects ; seeming at the same time by her looks to reproach my want of taste, and inviting me to fix my regards on her. Enraged at the preference she gave me, and the constraint her greedy and curious eyes had laid me under, I wished with all my heart, the officer would take her off my hands. This happened in the sequel, which entirely freed me from my troublesome companions. It seems the warmth of dinner raised our spirits and heightened our imaginations, so that we disclosed to each other in the coach, who we were ; the conversation grew general, every one related some remarkable part of his life, and the affairs that occasioned his journey. The clergyman was in pursuit of a living, which he flattered himself would enable him to feast oftener

tener with his friends. The usurer was coming to town to lay claim to a reversion, which he had bought about half a year before, and which was now just dropped, having made only the moderate profit of cent per cent of his money. The officer was come from the army, and pretended the minister ought to give him a pension, for a fall from his horse which broke his leg in pursuing some hussars, who had carried off two of his horses. His neighbour, who I learnt at dinner, was waiting woman to the beautiful lady that struck me so sensibly, spoke little and adjusted her carriage agreeable to her dear lady's, to whom she was entirely subservient. I understood from this young woman, who her lady was, she told me, but desired I would not give her up as my informer, because she was ordered to keep it secret. You may hence judge upon what slender foundations families ground  
 their



their secrets. The person who sat near the other door, was called Mr. — a famous surgeon or bone-setter, who was sent for to London to give his sentiments at Surgeon's-Hall, concerning a treatise under examination on the dissection of the Abdomen ; an affair which he endeavoured to explain to us in terms of art, tho' by his confusion and forgetfulness, he gave us to understand, he managed these hard words only to hide his own ignorance. The precise lady his neighbour, assured us with a squeaking voice, and raising herself in an affected manner, That she was left an orphan a year ago, and was now flying from the attempts of her guardian, who taking hold of her extream youth, would have inveigled her into marriage, but having an intire hatred to the creature, she had flung herself into the arms of a cousin who had promised her protection.

THUS

THUS my charming neighbour, whom I shall for the future distinguish by the name of Clarinda, and I had the satisfaction to know the history of the whole company. It seemed as if we agreed to keep our own secret. After these several details they all insensibly fell asleep one after another ; the clergyman begun, the rest followed his example, so far that only Clarinda, Mrs. Gravity and myself held up. I therefore talked upon indifferent subjects on account of this third person, and in some time after we found ourselves at the town where the coach stopped for that night.

I TOOK a great deal of pains to find out the most proper and convenient chamber for my beautiful Clarinda, examined the beds myself, had the sheets well aired, and in short did all those little offices which  
give

give so much satisfaction when they proceed from an enamoured heart. Oh love! that little God stole into my bosom insensibly, and took me by surprize on my blind side, a natural inclination to pity. I could not believe I was in love, the little cheat deprived me of this thought, that he might afterwards make me the more sensible how durable and cruel his tyranny is when he has taken possession of a soul likemine.

## C H A P. VI.

*A fatal kiss overthrows the author's hopes for some time. An artful reconciliation.*

THE goddess to whom I unwittingly paid my devoirs took notice of the little offices of civility which I was continually doing for her; she appeared well pleased with me, and I was ashamed it was not  
in

in my power to do her some more signal services ; in the mean time I laid hold of this favourable opportunity to desire the satisfaction of supping with her, because she had declared at her arrival she intended to be alone at night, not being able to sit up and sup with the publick company. She at first refused me, under pretence of her resolution, and for that she had observed I was under some vexation or natural melancholy, and possibly company might divert me. Ah, madam, said I, the vexation you are pleased to take notice of, can only be alleviated in your presence. I am under none but what you have been the occasion of ; for I am naturally exceeding merry, but since I saw you in tears, my soul is so softened by the compassion I had for you, that you behold me now in a condition so different from my usual one, that I have now no relish for pleasure. Separate myself from you !  
 was



was it but for one instant, I should be the most unhappy of men ; I have had the good fortune to see you but one day, and that day has worked in my heart the effect of many years. Pardon my acknowledging it to you, a secret power impells me, the motive I know not, but such as it is, I must avow it ; I am somewhat skilled in physiognomy, which talent I inherit from my father, by this I foresee a great many things, and am much deceived if I am not completely happy, by my being serviceable to you this day ; I hope you won't take it ill that my eyes were so long fixed on the most beautiful piece of the creation. This is, madam, what I read, what I see, I can't say more, but am sure I am not deceived.

THESE last words were deliver'd in so mysterious and confident a tone of voice, that quite confounded she held down her eyes, and then fixing them

them steadily upon me, I don't know, said she, mr.— what you mean by your words, or if I ought to give credit to your divinations, but must confess you delivered them with such solemnity, that I gave more attention than I should have done; I shall hereafter demand an explanation, but in the mean time, if I was not bound by the declaration made by me before our fellow travellers, I would with pleasure accept of your company to supper, but——but, interrupted the waiting woman, are you accountable to any one? are you not your own mistress? what are these people to you? you are low spirited, one can plainly see the gentleman is of a chearful disposition and may dispel it, you must take opportunity when she offers; do they know either the one or the other, call him your cousin, see there's an expedient, perhaps he may be so, and not know it, when it thus happens, it is

of great service to have a husband or a relation on the road, for it makes a body better respected. mr. — has the air of a gentleman, and I greatly like his looks; how do you know, added she, looking knowingly upon her, that he may not be of service to you some time or other. Upon my word, madam, replied I, the girl is in the right, (she had not a word to say to this) and I will this instant be your cousin, and more obsequious than any you have.

I LEFT her without staying for a reply, and went down to tell the company that I was sorry I was obliged to disappoint them, my cousin desiring me not to leave her; the clergyman answered for the rest that I should be famished, that a relation ought not to hinder me from supper, and that I must not miss drinking some old hock, for he had  
tasted

tasted it, and believed it very good and cheap. The officer went farther, he seized me by the arms, zounds, says he, what signifies a cousin, though yours is a very handsome one, you shall stay with us; you are young and without doubt are going into the service, I will teach you to drink. Love and wine replied I, do not require masters, I thank you, but my word is given; on saying this I retired without waiting for an answer. I returned to Clarinda, whom I found in great confusion, and buried in a deep reverie; she was oppressed with affliction which she could not conceal, her tears forced a passage notwithstanding her endeavours to the contrary, and this sorrow had somewhat in it so grand and so moving, that my tears soon accompanied hers. I was ever prone to pity; it seems when the soul is agitated, she seeks such ideas as may heighten more and



more the impressions she has received; they offer themselves in crouds to her confusion, and with a sort of emulation, present themselves in the most lively and tender forms; the soul feeds upon them, and finds a sweet satisfaction in her grief. The sight of my tears increased Clarinda's grief, but the sighs which followed them made me throw myself at her feet, and bathe her hands with my tears, with which she was so moved, and the tender air I put on, that she seemed by pressing my hands to endeavour to lighten the impression she imagined herself the occasion of; her charming eyes seemed to ask the cause of my griefs, mine answered with a languishing sadness, and said to her, I partake your sorrow, why do not you let me share the cause of them?

THE waiting woman was in a corner and cryed for company, but not

not having the same reason to continue her tears so long as we did, she roused us by saying supper was ready, for she heard them coming up with it; I raised myself up, and the supper was put on the table; it was with difficulty we persuaded Clarinda to seat herself, nevertheless, as her afflictions were not restrained, but had enjoyed a free vent, she ceased by degrees, and her countenance put on a serenity which prefiged to us an agreeable evening. Nature abhors sufferings, and when she is in that state, she gladly lays hold of such distractions as may restore her to a peaceful state, which always best agrees with her. We each of us found ourselves much easier, at this instant deep melancholy left us for some time, and we seated ourselves at the table with a great deal of complaisance; Clarinda ordered what we might want to be set near her waiting woman, and the ser-

vants, though very ready to wait on us, were dismissed. We began with a good soup, a wise precaution which I took, and which no traveler ought ever to omit.

I MADE the conversation as lively as possible, my neighbour, notwithstanding her sorrows, of which there still remained some traces, could not help smiling at my flights; I trumped up several stories to divert her, and perceived with pleasure they were not at all disagreeable. I have all my life laid down this maxim of behaviour with persons who are strangers; I endeavour to find their turn of thought, and then I neither do nor say any thing contrary to it. It is necessary for a man who would rise in the world, to apply himself to the knowledge of man, which he will infallibly attain to, if he appears to those he would court to be of their taste and humour.

WE

WE had been near an hour at table when Clarinda, oppressed with drowsiness, fell fast asleep while I was talking to her; the waiting maid, at that time going out of the room, gave me an opportunity to take an exact survey of her beauty, which made such an impression I could not resist the desire I had to rob her of a kiss. She awaked suddenly, and looking on me with eyes replete with anger, you are very bold, said she, to take such liberties with me, begone, and never speak to me more, you do not deserve the honour I have done in admitting you into my company, and I am very sorry I should be so indiscreet as to expose myself to such an insult. Saying these words she got up and turned her back on me with an air that surprized me; I would have justified and flung myself at her feet, but nothing could appease her. I re-



tired much concerned that I had displeased her ; I now perceived I was greatly to blame, and conceiving an infinite respect for her virtue, was sorry I entertained any bad suspicions of it. I resolved to repair my rashness at any price, and going to bed with these reflections, never closed my eyes, but found by the extream grief I was in for her just indignation that I loved her, and I feared with reason, that I had made a bad beginning of my courtship that attempt appeared at first to me a trifle, but was looked on by her as an outrage done to her chastity ; the melancholy disposition she was in sowed her temper, and confirmed me in the opinion that the soul in different situations magnifies and diminishes the same objects. Before day, when I was just dropping asleep, they called me up, as soon as dressed I presented myself to Clarinda, who appeared so angry with

with me, I durst not offer to lead her down stairs, but contented myself with taking the light to carry before her, which she would not suffer, but ordered the maid to carry it; I returned the coolness with which she treated me by the most submissive respect. After the lady had seated herself in the coach I took my place with all the necessary precautions not to incommode her: it was quite dark, and the company soon fell asleep, I offered this charming person to lean upon me, and take a nod, but she pretended the situation was not convenient; this gave me an opportunity to ask her if she was uneasy in her seat, when that happens, replies she briskly, it is impossible to prevent it, it is what every one must expect that ventures himself in such coaches as these, nor is this the most disagreeable thing I have met with; on saying which she stopped short, but I had no power

to make any reply, she soon fell asleep, and the little rest I had had in the foregoing night, made me presently follow her example.

I WAS extreamly agitated in my sleep by an unquiet and troublesome dream, I thought myself in a temple, such as is devoted by the ancients; the divinity that was there worshipped had a fiery and majestick countenance, it addressed its discourse to me, and seemed to be very angry, which filled me with a secret horror; draw near, says the deity, in an enraged voice, and receive the punishment your unjust suspicions deserve, see for what you was born, continued he, and consider if the heavy sorrows which oppress this woman deserve such ill usage from you. I lifted up my eyes, and saw with extream surprize, Clarinda; she seemed overwhelmed with tears to make her complaint to this deity.

Reverence

Reverence her virtue, added he, notwithstanding your suspicions, she is blameless, and her innocence shall triumph, and your rashness be punished, lay hold of him, said he, and make him understand by long sufferings what respect is due to those persons who are protected by virtue, which is the name of that presided in this temple ; I was conducted to a dark prison, doing all I could to move pity and justify myself, but in vain, they flung me into a dismal dungeon, the gates of which were iron, they shut them on me, for it seemed as if I heard it, which frightened me so that I awoke ; the whole company, except Clarinda, was awake. The idea which this dream occasioned me, troubled me exceedingly, and I could not help fearing that it might be a presage to some misfortune ; whether it is chance or prophecy I know not, but I have been



been generally warned of any approaching disaster.

WHENEVER I chanced in the course of my life to be visited by such dreams, they always had in the end their effects, for I have observed with surprize they were the forerunners of what evidently happened to me afterwards. The soul, anxious for the preservation of what belongs to the body, to whom she is so closely united, is perpetually busy about every thing that may serve it; she is awake at the time when the body is, as I may say, dead as to this life, and seems to make lively impressions on the imagination, to the end, that notwithstanding the lethargy, in which sleep plunges the body, it may preserve the remembrance of such thoughts as can contribute to its security; she is present to its weakness and vexations, and allays them by agreeable phantoms; she

she warns long before, this body which she cherishes, of the dangers that may befall it, to the end that when awake it may pursue the necessary means for its preservation; she, fearful of its falling, walks her, if one may use the expression, about in leading strings. How happy should we be if our organs were subtle enough to converse with this noble being; we might then conduct ourselves with such wisdom, that we should escape the perils which beset our lives, and pass our days by this means in peace and tranquility.

THE fright this dream occasioned soon vanished, I was too full of Clarinda not to be wholly taken up with her, besides youth is too lively to fix itself long on the same objects. The first night's adventure was the only thing that had power to recall my ideas, for it was always present  
to

to my wounded imagination. I was overwhelmed with these distractions which I sought to unravel, when Clarinda awaked; I asked her in a particular manner after her health, the answer was a cool bow; I was so sensible of this cruel proceeding, that I could not help murmuring to myself. I have often been among women, but I have never observed any one of them moved with what has raised so great a passion in this lady; but I was too young at that time to know that the difference of character, or the disposition the person is in when the accident happens, makes the affair more or less considerable, and that what shall appear a trifle to a merry and gay soul, becomes a crime to the melancholy and reserved; I did not carry my thoughts so far as this, the natural desire of diminishing one's own faults, prevented me, for I could not believe myself to blame. I hoped time might

might lessen or efface the bad impression she had of me, or that some opportunity would offer whereby I might restore myself to her good graces; this was in effect the case, Clarinda found herself ill, and accordingly was obliged to stay at the inn, I staid likewise, my concern for her welfare wrought upon her in my favour, and finding herself a little better in health, and in a more favourable disposition towards me, gave me leave to stay with her, I kept a strict guard over my words, and did all I could during my stay to make her think better of me than she had done: although she possessed a great command over herself, yet she could not help sighing now and then; I gave her to understand that I observed it with a great deal of concern, and that I guessed pretty near the cause of it by my skill in physiognomy. I do not know, replies she, what it is you would say,



say, but I should be glad to know upon what you found your conjectures, I have often heard of physiognomy without giving credit to so vain a science, fit only to catch vulgar minds ; I am persuaded those who profess it, if they speak the truth, would own that vanity is more the principle which occasions their spending so much time in acquiring it than any confidence they have in their studies ; confess it then sir, you who have given yourself up so young to this science, which if you do not, permit me at least to doubt whatever you tell me, but if in the mean time you give me some real proofs, such as nearly concern me, you may perhaps cure my incredulity ; I shall not disagree with you, answered I, but these sciences are fruitless, and the rules laid down to attain them, often liable to errors, and really madam I scarcely know what to believe myself, having

ving made a great many experiments,  
 where chance, if she had any hand  
 in it, always confirmed my predic-  
 tions ; you are very young, inter-  
 rupted Clarinda, to have attained  
 so much experience and observation  
 as is necessary to foresee futurity by  
 present events ; I am naturally curi-  
 ous, and if I thought you was not  
 as much fatigued as you really ought  
 to be, I should engage you to relate  
 your story to me, it must needs be  
 very entertaining if the science of  
 which we have been talking has had  
 any share in it ; if it be only my re-  
 pose, madam, that prevents you  
 from enjoying this satisfaction, I can  
 easily give that up to it, but in my  
 turn I cannot help being apprehen-  
 sive lest my long narration may pre-  
 judice your health ; I do not think  
 so, interrupts she, I find myself  
 much better to night, for I slept af-  
 ter dinner, and on the contrary I  
 believe this recital will divert me,  
 from

from some thoughts that I have in my head.

## CHAP. VII.

*Two instances of skill in astrology.  
Apparatus for a duel,*

I WAS not at all displeased with the opportunity she gave me of talking about myself, nor could I possibly have found a better, to remove effectually her prejudices against me, to which I shall chiefly apply myself; the reader only remarking that as my story in the first volume began at the twentieth year of my age, this part of it relates to events which happened before that period.

My father was called —, he married lady — daughter to the earl of —. My lady, his mother would never consent to his marriage,

age, she intended him for a lady much richer, the love he had for the forementioned young lady, deprived him of his inheritance. I was the second fruit of their marriage, nothing was neglected that might give me an education necessary to the great projects my father formed for my advancement. At the age of five years, they retained masters of several sciences for me, and at ten I was no small proficient; my father, deeply skilled in physiognomy, instructed me early in this science, which had scarce ever deceived him. I will give you two examples, madam, by the bye, which shall convince you of this truth.

ON his return from Holland, where he was carried, having been wounded and taken prisoner at the battle of —, he set up at an inn called the Lamb at —, his valet and other servants being employed in  
taking



taking care of his equipage, he sat down to table, and his supper was served up by a lusty lad, very well made, and very young ; he cast his eyes upon him, and having stedfastly observed his face, he ordered him to call the valet-de-chambre to wait on him. The servant, replies he, was very busy, and that he had the honour to supply his place. Do as I bid you, said my father, he obeyed, and the valet came up. Go send me the landlord hither, says his master to him, as soon as ever he entered the room. The landlord comes. The boy who brought in my supper, is he your son ? says my father to him. No, sir, replies the man ; so much the better, continues my father, is he any relation to you ? adds he. He is a boy from Devonshire, and has been with me three months. So much the worse for you, replies my father, get rid of him, for he will be hanged before  
 fix,

six months is at an end; the landlord amazed, leaves my father without replying, but his wife afterwards asking what the officer wanted with him, he tells her the whole story, and concludes it with saying, that the gentleman either intended to make himself diversion, or that he was a fool. There was no more passed about it this time, but the next summer, the valet coming with my father's equipage to the same place where the prediction happened, the landlord of the public house knew him and enquired after his master. The valet replied he was coming after him. Faith, says the man, he is a great physiognomist, or a profound scholar; what happened lately has been the occasion of our often talking of him; John, the servant I had, and whom he told me would be hanged in six months time, was executed about four months after. My father's valet, who was by  
when

when his fate was foretold, desired to know his history. The landlord told him that this unhappy boy went on the highway, and had followed this method for several years, but was at last taken and hanged for it.

PARDON me, madam, continued I, looking on Clarinda, if I have made too long a digression from my subject, I thought to divert you with this adventure ; moreover I was desirous to create in you a good opinion of my late father's science, for since I inherit some of it, it is natural in me to extol it. I shall put you to the trial, replies she, but go on with your history, it pleases me prodigiously. At the age of twelve years, my father placed me a volunteer in the regiment of ———, before I left him he put into my hands a paper of written rules by which I might adjust my conduct: you will have time to read it, says he to me, and  
I

I shall know by the use you make of them, whether you give the attention to them they deserve. I recommend the practice of these maxims, which will be of service to you, above all, employ well your time and youth ; the more you improve your natural talents, the more agreeable will be the reception you meet with from mankind ; fly all irregularity, it debases the mind and dulls the understanding ; endeavour to gain the esteem of every one, but spurn them who having obtained your friendship, basely refuse you theirs ; life without honour is not worthy leading, the great secret of avoiding quarrels, is to acquit yourself with credit in the first, for a brave man is soon known and revered ; I had scarce been in the guards twenty-four hours ere I killed an impertinent fellow who laughed at my being a boy, since which my companions have taken time to reflect before they  
em-



embarked in a quarrel with me, and whenever it happened, I always took care to have a good cause, and justice on my side. But what I must recommend, my son, above all the rest, is to conquer your self-love, which is very predominant in you, this fault alone ought to humble you, but if you will have a specious excuse for it, endeavour to acquire all the accomplishments possible, for I know but this one way to make it tolerable, and on this condition it may be overlooked.

AFTER he had finished these instructions, he embraced me, and we parted. I joined the regiment in which he had placed me, at S——, where I soon perceived the deference the world pays to a man of parts. I was in all parties of pleasure, and in every assembly, and as I performed well on the violin, every body was fond of my company. I easily found  
means

means of displaying my parts to the best advantage, which gained me so much applause, that I returned with double vigour to my studies; spending almost whole nights in the pursuit of them, I passed two years in such employments—Hold, sir, interrupted Clarinda, there are two years to give me an account of, we shall soon come to the latter end of your story, if in this manner, you jump over whole years. You was then twelve; two you have skipped makes fourteen, there remain six more, which perhaps you will pass over as slightly; no, no, we must come to particulars, and it is particulars I expect you shall relate.

You need say no more, madam, replied I, you shall be obeyed. The earl of —, colonel of the regiment, whose character and appearance pleased me from the first, was the person I attached myself to; he

was gentle, good, merciful and brave, greatly compassionating the faults of youth, whom he reprimanded without harshness; this gained him the love of all the young people, so that whenever he went on any expedition, every one endeavoured to follow him. His lady was exactly like him in character, though her person was not so amiable as his; we frequently passed our afternoons with her. I dined almost every day at their house, though desirous of being excused from it, having observed that this preference created a jealousy of me in my companions, and though none of them ever disclosed their uneasiness on this head, yet it was not long before I felt the effects of it.

I SOMETIMES accompanied our gentlemen to visit a young lady, daughter to a merchant in the town where we were quartered; she was pro-

prodigiously fond of musick, and as I was the only one in the regiment who could play, she frequently desired me to come and teach her a few lessons. Captain D——, about eighteen, took occasion from hence to conceive an ill will to me, and the preference given me by the colonel and his lady seemed not only to lessen, but entirely to alienate that friendship which he had professed for me on my first entering into the regiment, however, he behaved hitherto with so much moderation, that I had no reason to reproach him ; but the regard miss Randal had for me put him out of patience, for he was in love with her, and though I was not old enough to give him any reason for a jealousy, yet my manly deportment occasioned it. He sought all opportunities to affront me, but I avoided as much as possible, shewing my resentment, whenever his



railleries would admit of any other construction

ONE day as I was teaching her a new song, he cried out, in my opinion it is the most shocking piece of nonsense I ever heard ; I answered only every one to their liking, for my part I take it to be an excellent piece, and they who are judges say the same ; judges, judges, replied he in a sneer, fine judges truly ; who are you talking of ? said I to him hastily, of your judges, cried he, not of you, for I do not imagine you rank yourself among them ; all in good time, all in good time, it is true replied I, I am not so vain, nor would I ever attempt to give my opinion in affairs I know nothing of ; I assure you, continued he, in the same rallying tone, I shall not make my self uneasy at what you say, for I should be very sorry if I was capable of deciding in musical affairs ;  
I

I believe it may suit well enough with such a one as miss here, who might be nevertheless accomplished if she had not that useless acquisition, but for a man, and an officer too, it is mean, it is base and contemptible to the last degree. He ended these words in so scornful a manner, that I resolved from that moment to answer him no farther; sing on miss, said I, and let us not be concerned whether the captain thinks well or ill of it, if the worst comes to the worst, he can leave us; and sir, we shall meet again elsewhere; he understood my words, and went off saying he is a boy, a very child with his musick. I pretended not to hear his speech, but the young lady hearing him, and fearing I should resent it, said to me he is a fool, and not worth your notice; I answered her in the same tone with a forced smile, I believe so too. We sung on, and I held a

strict command over myself, notwithstanding anger had made me pale, for whenever my heart is rent with that impetuous passion, this tell-tale face always shews it. I took my leave soon after, and spent the rest of the day with the colonel; he perceived the disorder I was in, occasioned by the struggle between my honour and human nature, which had so cruelly tortured me, that I was extremely altered; he asked me several times, with a great deal of compassion, what ailed me; I answered I could not tell; a little blood taken from him this spring time will soon set him to rights, said the surgeon, entering the room just then, it is the ferment of youthful blood, and it is necessary he should lose a good deal; by chance I cast my eyes on this man, and had been too well instructed by my late father in the lines of the face to be long discovering what he denoted

noted at that time ; you would have me bled, said I to him, if you could as easily restore blood as take it away, or I was master of this secret, we might be of service to each other ; I need not trouble myself I believe to say any more to you, for you must needs understand me ; the surgeon declared I was in the right, and seemed surprized that I so easily found him out.

WE went together a walking in the fields, whence I soon found an opportunity of retiring to my chamber. Here, after I had shut myself up, I walked some time hastily backwards and forwards, ere I, could resolve to satisfy my desire of measuring a sword with captain D—, this was the first time I ever embarked in such a fray, which made me very loth to go forward ; an unhappy desire of life terrified me with the risk I run of losing it ; this



daftard idea fet my whole frame into a fit of trembling ; I cried with rage, to find myself capable of fuch bafe reflections ; I could not conceive how it was poffible any one fhould go to fight daily, as many do without being concerned, and yet was mad I could not think as they did ; at laft I began to reafon with myfelf in the following words.

WHO am I ? am I compofed in a different manner from the reft of mankind ? what can occafion thefe conflicts within me ? am I the only one of my fpecies that dare not tread the paths of honour ? what will they think of me ? what will they fay if I fuffer affronts with impunity ? perhaps the captain was really in jeft ; how fhall I appear in public ? I muft either fight or go into orders ; yes I will perish a thoufand times fooner than fhun the combat ; I muft one day or another pay

pay the debt of nature, what signifies it whether it be sooner or later, if that be my fate, I shall have done my endeavours to end it like a gentleman, and shall not give my parents reason to be ashamed of their being the authors of my life. These reflections determined me ; I then had recourse to my monitor, I mean the written maxims my father had given me at parting, and which I had been very negligent of ; here I read the following rules of conduct, which exactly suited the case I was in at that instant, “ never insult a-  
 “ ny one for your diversion, but  
 “ if you should, do not be afraid  
 “ of fighting for it, and let that be  
 “ in cold blood for your own pre-  
 “ servation ; you must not, when  
 “ honour calls, give ear to the mur-  
 “ mur of nature ; when you are a-  
 “ gitated by them, do not imagine  
 “ it is want of courage ; all those  
 “ who tell you they go to fight  
 G 5 “ without

“ without being sensible of fear,  
 “ are mere boasters, but if it should  
 “ be so they must feel it to a great  
 “ degree in the time of action,  
 “ which sometime happens, and is  
 “ the reason they acquit themselves  
 “ so ill in it; on the contrary, those  
 “ who have had this conflict before  
 “ hand, and come off conquerors  
 “ of human nature, fulfil with cou-  
 “ rage and conduct the rules of in-  
 “ jured honour”: it contained several  
 other articles on this head, such  
 as choice of place and time, the  
 knowledge of the weapons, the ad-  
 dress of parrying and giving thrusts,  
 the method to be pursued in case of  
 wounds or death, and other pre-  
 cautions, both just and necessary.  
 This reading made me resolute, so  
 that I went to my trial with a cool-  
 ness which I have ever since been  
 master of, in several different un-  
 lucky accidents that have befallen  
 me.

AT

AT five of the clock the next morning I was at the captain's door; his valet told me he was asleep, that does not signify, said I to him, I must speak with him, I accordingly went in and awoke him; ah, ah, says he to me, surprized to see me, you are very early this morning, are we ordered to horse? I do not know, answered I, when the regiment marches, and when that happens it is not my business to inform you; this is not what I come about, continued I, observing his servant was gone out, it is a lesson of musick I am about to give you, you have conceived so great a distaste to it, and treat so ill those who esteem it, that I am willing to shew you that they do not deserve your contempt; dress yourself, we will go out, and then we shall see if you are as courageous, sword in hand, as you are insolent to those who are  
no



not beneath you in any thing ; you was pleased yesterday to pity my youth, which is really much obliged to you, but you will find it old enough to teach you not to despise such a man as I am. The air with which I told him this, made him sensible that I was not in jest, he would have waved the matter in hand, by telling me that among companions things ought not be taken in so bad a light, but this weighing nothing with me, he had recourse to a bravado that intimidated me a little ; he got up, and having bolted the door, told me since I had so great a desire to fight, it should be in his chamber, I replied the place was indifferent to me, and pulled off my cloaths ; it shall be without quarter, adds he, and without the regard paid to the first time of losing blood in this way ; with all my heart, answered I, if we do otherwise, it will be but childrens play,

play, I am entirely of your way of thinking.

### C H A P. VIII.

*The author kills his man, and carries off his lady.*

**I** HELD my sword in my hand, sometime, without my antagonist's attempting to get ready ; well said I, are you about to take your part in this affair ; faith, replied he, I have reflected, and find it is putting myself too much in your power to fight here, it will have the air of an affassination, I therefore desire to go out ; I am convinced, replied I, putting on my coat, and sheathing my sword, I cannot abide to do any thing that has a bad aspect, he made me no answer, but called his servant and dressed himself, ruminating like a distracted man.

WE

WE went out into some fields, not very far from the town ; here stripping ourselves to our shirts, and bidding adieu to our scabbards, we fell to it. After several thrusts, both given and parry'd on each side, I at last received a wound in my arm ; There is enough, sir, said he, I shall acknowledge you for a brave man ; I am not as yet reduced, replied I, to say as much of you ; the sight of my blood inflamed my choler, I flew upon him, and in a short time gave him such a home push it went quite through his body. He fell down, saying he was a dead man ; I went up to him, tore off his cravat, and tied up his wound, then embraced him, promising I would send him assistance as soon as possible.

I ENTERED the town in a great hurry and found out a surgeon, to whom

whom I pointed out the place ; I returned to my lodgings and dressed my wound myself, and immediately after took post for Dover, got into Holland by sea, and thence made away for the imperial dominions with as much expedition as possible, and entered a small town, where one of the princes of the empire resided. On my arrival I writ to the earl of —, my colonel, and gave him the whole account of the affair, desiring he would let me know the consequences of it. As I was out of danger I pacified myself, and patiently waited his answer. My wound, which I regarded as a trifle, grew much worse, and obliged me the second day to keep my room ; a fever ensued, which made me excessive ill. The prince of R—— was informed that an officer was come into his dominions for refuge, on account of a duel, and understanding I was wounded, sent a gentleman



gentleman to assure me of his protection and assistance. He brought along with him the prince's surgeon, who dressed my wound ; I begged the gentleman to thank the prince his master for the goodness with which he had honoured me, and tell him I should take the liberty of paying my respects to him as soon as my indisposition would permit. The experience of his surgeon saved my arm, and in all likelihood my life, for the person I applied to in the town, by his ignorance brought me almost to death's door ; I had kept my bed eight days when I received a packet of letters from the colonel, which greatly contributed to the establishment of my health, being fraught with abundance of good news. He congratulated me in his letter on the honour I deserved in acquitting myself so well in the quarrel, nor did he hesitate to tell me it was high time

time I fought, for every body had for some time observed that captain D—— used me very ill before the duel ; he took notice that it had the best effect that I could possibly wish for, it had not only given me the name of a brave, but of a prudent man, who did all he could to shun quarrels ; he then tells me that the captain's wound was in a fine way, the thrust I gave him having missed the mortal parts, so that he hoped he would in a short time get well over it ; he proceeds with assuring me I should be informed when he thought it safe for me to return, and to blind the reason of my flight, he had given out a report, which prevailed, that the death of an uncle obliged me to go away so suddenly ; the captain, he informs me, was the loudest in my praise, acknowledging to every one that he gave me reason enough for what was done, which generous proceeding

ing ought to make me in gratitude friends with him; then goes on with telling me I was greatly missed by my acquaintance, and that I should find at my return how well I was beloved; in fine he concludes this letter with a bank note of fifty pounds, which he desired I would take, in order to supply the extraordinary expences that this affair would occasion.

THIS news pleased me much, and I sent the colonel an answer full of gratitude. The ninth day I was well enough to go and pay my respects to the prince; he received me with distinguishing marks of his goodness; the detail of my affair had been given to him, which procured me his esteem, insomuch that he did me the honour to present me himself to the two ladies his daughters. The eldest was about thirteen, and beautiful as the day, excepting that her complexion

complexion was inclined to the brown; the youngest was fair and very pale, but without being a beauty was prodigiously agreeable; she was about twelve years old, and yet was mistress of a surprizing turn of wit.

I do not know they were informed that I understood musick, but they presented me a violin; the prince opposed it with a great deal of good nature, alledging, that he had observed my wound would not permit me to gratify their desires. They were satisfied with this reason, but the youngest told me with a great deal of good nature, she would recommend me in such a manner to the surgeon belonging to the prince her father, that I should soon be able to perform without inconvenience. The prince was graciously pleased to invite me to dinner, and ordered me the free liberty of his table,



table as long as I staid in his territories. I thanked him, and begged he would excuse me for that day. I was carried back again in a coach which he appointed for me, having given orders to the master of the horse to have it always ready to attend me whenever I went abroad.

I HAVE, since this, been acquainted with several courts ; it is commonly said that the French is the politest, I shall not dispute it ; but in truth I have found by experience that wherever sovereigns are, the same civility and politeness reigns among them, national prejudice only making the imaginary difference ; for my part I cannot too much extol the reception given to strangers in Germany, it is carried even to trifling attendances, so that I am under a necessity all my life long of acknowledging with gratitude the many favours I received at the court

court of the prince of ——. I am very sorry on this occasion I have tied myself up, so as not to name persons nor places, in order that I might make use of a greater freedom in these memoirs; it is however a pleasing satisfaction to publish to the world, how sensible I am of all the favours heaped upon me at this court. I hope the reader will excuse the digression here made, in favour of the sentiments I shall ever retain for those who deserve my praise. I had not the same reasons at this time to secrete their names from Clarinda, because she had room enought to be displeased with even an attempt to conceal any circumstance from her, She followed my narration step by step, and if I may use the expression, pierced the remotest researches of my heart; besides, I was not then so prudent as I ought to be; the reader must see I was very young when

I gave this account, and he may depend upon it I shall not hide from him any of my follies ; but to return to the place of my voluntary banishment.

THE prince's gentleman, a very handsome young person, who had contracted with me a very strict friendship, came often to see me, and observing I painted in miniature, would have me produce my performances at court. He told the princesses that I was master of miniature, the eldest having a taste for this art, frequently amused herself in it ; she sent for me one day to give my opinion of a picture she had painted of the virgin ; you must imagine she had performed like a princess, that is to say very ill ; besides her master had given her false principles in design, and wrong instructions in mixing the colours ; I was greatly perplexed in what manner I should deliver

deliver my sentiments on this affair, for it is a difficult matter to speak out in these cases, especially when we cannot extol the performance; we ever look on our own works with admiration, view them with a prejudiced eye, and nothing touches so near as to find them taken in an indifferent light.

I EXCUSED myself by pleading the small knowledge I had in this art, added that I thought she was a forward scholar; she desired the sight of something I had done, having a picture of my sister I shewed it, it was tolerable, but she had the goodness to say it was a finished piece, that I was very expert, and as I knew more than her master, therefore insisted I should correct the virgin she had painted; this confounded me greatly, for her master had already attempted the same, whereby he made it much worse than before;



fore; but I was forced to comply, though I thought to rid myself of the office by alledging my ignorance of her colours; she soon obviated that difficulty by sending a person to fetch my own, I began to work, by degrees I erased some, effaced others, and added new lines; the princess stood by me, and every time I took my penknife to scrape out, she would cry, O sir, you will spoil all, but in three hours time she altered her opinion, for having made the piece what it ought to be, she jumped for joy, and shewed her work to the whole court; every body admired it, for all that princes do is esteemed, even their faults, this pleased so well, that the princess was ever uneasy without me. The young one must be served in her turn, she desired a few lessons on the violin, which I gave her, and in eight days was herself sensible of the progress she had made.

I WAS every day at court, the prince having allotted me an apartment there. The eldest princess continually shewed me fresh instances of her goodness, and said that if I was wise, I would remain at her father's court, who had a great esteem for me, and that perhaps it might not prove the worst thing I could do; I never answered her but by low bows, always avoiding to come to an explanation upon that head.

FIFTEEN days passed away in such employments as these, with all the agreeableness imaginable, and the prince often favoured me with his company; at first in our conversation he put me upon the foot of a young person, and our discourse chiefly turned upon the pleasures of youth, but I artfully shewed him that to me they were mere trifles,

and made him sensible that my taste was for more solid entertainments. He was surprized to find by my sentiments that I had studied and reaped so great a benefit at my age from a good use of books. I possessed a happy memory, by the help of which I could easily quote sentences, proper to elucidate whatever was advanced in discourse; he often complimented me with saying that my knowledge was great, and that if I pleased I might prove a very necessary subject to him.

THESE praises flattered, and self-love raised me to so ardent a desire of excelling, that I applied myself to reading, in order to refresh my memory with such passages as deserved regard. Happy minutes which were employed in the pleasure of gaining me esteem; I had not as yet felt the power of the fair sex, for I never paid my court to them  
with

with any such design, it was only the force of education, and the vain desire of being taken notice of, that made me respect them with politeness ; but madam, this time is greatly changed since I first saw your charming face—— Truce sir, truce, interrupts Clarinda, I do not desire any of your compliments, tell me upon your word, did not the princesses favours and smiles, notwithstanding your youth, seem full of charms. Perhaps you may have some reason to pass over this article, I shall therefore take no notice of the artful method you used to inform me what perfections you are endowed withal ; ah madam, replied I, you very agreeably tell me how frequently I fall into my vice of self love, for it will appear, notwithstanding the contempt I know it deserves ; I am greatly obliged to you for your admonitions, and shall certainly mend when this detail is



finished; I absolutely forbid, continued she, perceiving me humbled, your so doing in the sequel of this history, I mentioned it only to let you see that I observe every word you say, when a person is really adorned with such qualifications it is no crime to shew them, besides it is necessary they should be known in this case, as they are the very reasons why you was so greatly caressed at this court; but if you are resolved to build upon my words, I must take care how I disclose my thoughts; by no means madam, answered I, 'tis I shall be the sufferer by your silence, and since it is your will, I'll go on in the tract which may afford me the pleasure of saying the most in my own behalf.

## C H A P IX.

*A politick scene, or a touchstone of  
pity.*

I PROMISED you, madam, not to advance a falsity, but this I must do if I tell you my sentiments, for the princess was inspired by love; for whether I was too young to conceive such tender impressions, or her high rank restrained them, my respect was no other than is due to persons in her high station; I must own indeed she suffered not a day to pass without bestowing fresh marks of her esteem upon me, which was answered with an awful deference and sincere thanks. I likewise added to the veneration I had for her, a love which one possesses for a favourite sister, and which I have hitherto preserved at all times.

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THE

THE time of my departure drew near, for I had received some letters in which I was ordered to join my regiment. These I shewed the prince, who had done me too many favours not to deserve this deference; he congratulated me on the happy issue of my affair, and took from hence occasion to say, that ever since I told him my income was small, being only a subaltern officer, he intended to place me in a way I should like myself of making my fortune out of hand, that he would take care of it, I having nothing further to do than to remain in his territories: he said he intended me to be near his son, who was then at Vienna, that as I should soon gain his esteem and friendship, I might strengthen the propensity he ever had to Virtue; but if my resolution was fixed for the military life, I should immediately have a commission.

tion. My answer, with a thousand thanks for the honour he did me, was an absolute refusal in the following terms. Believe me incapable, sir, of forfeiting the esteem you have conceived for me, the loss of which I should deserve if I withdrew myself from the obedience of my master, my king, and my sovereign, this would be running counter to all the rules of duty, honour, and common honesty, the views of fortune shall never make me forget that I am an Englishman, his subject, born to lay down my life when his necessity requires it; how happy should I be if I could sacrifice it for his service; the war is already kindled, this takes from me all possibility of enjoying so advantageous an offer, and which with all imaginable reluctance I am forced to refuse; I humbly beg your highness will not look upon me the worse for these sentiments. No, replied the prince,



far from condemning, I admire them, so that you may always depend on my friendship; saying these words he gave me his hand, which having kissed very respectfully, I went to take my audience of leave of the princesses.

THEY were thunderstruck at this sudden departure, for they built upon my staying there, the prince having told them his intentions with regard to me; they thought I could not possibly refuse so gracious an offer. How, sir, have you the heart to leave us, cries the eldest to me, after all the value we have expressed for you, sister, could you think it? no, I did not imagine any such thing, cries the youngest, but he is inconstant and fickle, I hate him for ever, I cannot say so, says the eldest princess, for I shall always regret this parting. These words, and the sorrow I had to leave this court, made

made my eyes overflow with tears which I endeavoured to conceal by kneeling down to kiss the eldest princess's garment, who raised me and presented me her hand to salute. My heart was so full, and oppressed with grief, that I could not speak a word at going off. I was in this agony when the gentleman who gave me so many signal marks of his friendship, came from the prince, and presented me with a curious sword, whose hilt was masséy gold; this he said his highness gave as a signal of his regard to the noble sentiments I breathed, and the value he had for me: he moreover ordered me post chaises to the utmost limits of his dominions.

I GAVE the surgeon, whose care and skill preserved my life, a watch and snuff box, and left the court, having thanked the gentleman for the many civilities I had received

from him, compleatly happy to find that the good wishes and esteem of every body followed me. The refusal I had given to the surprizing offers made me by the prince, had so effectually effaced the envy many conceived, on account of the great intimacy his highness had honoured me with, that my disinterestedness was beheld and recorded as a prodigy, and rivetted the affections of such, who must otherwise have been my implacable enemies.

IN about six days I arrived at the garrison where my regiment was quartered, and went directly to the colonel's; he expressed great joy at my safe return, and conducted me to captain D——'s lodging, who still kept his room. The captain was transported to see me again; I went up to the bed without taking any notice of him, but he flung himself about my neck with so unfeigned

feigned a sincerity, that I returned his embrace with a matchless fidelity, and lively affection. He said not a word of what had passed, and from that moment we commenced the most cordial affection for each other, which was not to be dissolved but by a death that carried him off about two years after, in such a broil as ours was.

I HAD gone thus far in my history when accidentally casting my eyes on the candles, I observed by their diminution that the night was far advanced, which obliged me to leave off. I presume madam, said I to Clarinda, you would be glad of some rest, for I fear too late sitting up may somewhat endanger your health, which cannot receive any benefit from the sequel of my trifling and insipid detail. I beg your pardon, it is mighty diverting, and I should be glad to know the whole,  
but



but that we must refer to the morrow, when I shall see how I am in my health, and whether my condition will suffer me to pursue my journey; good night, sir, continued she, go to rest, I am exceedingly well pleased with you to night; I made her a low bow and retired.

I HAD not enjoyed the pleasure of sleep above two hours, when I was interrupted by Clarinda's waiting woman? oh, sir, says the maid, covered with tears, my lady is dying with a shortness of breath, she has been already in two agonies, the first of which I recovered her from, but I fear the second, which I left her in, must certainly kill her; I flung myself out of bed, and put my night-gown on, laying hold of an elixir which I always carry about with me; whilst she was expressing her griefs, I ran without answering a word, to her mistress's chamber, and

and O heavens, if ever I felt the emotions of pity, it was in this fatal moment. She was pale, death sat in her face, a cold sweat trickled down her forehead, and her eyes, half opened, were motionless, and seemed to belong to a person who had breathed her last. An universal tremor seized my joints, and sensible this instant how dearly I loved her, with immoderate haste I administered my remedies; I poured my medicine into a spoon, and was obliged to force her teeth open to gain a passage for it, she swallowed it down. The virtues of this heavenly balsam soon took effect, life began to return, her fit ceased, and the goodness of the remedy began to manifest itself by a prodigious vomiting.

I now began to breathe, and it was high time I should, for the condition I saw her in, had almost reduced me to death's door, but the  
prospect

prospect of her reviving, and the hopes it would continue, awakened me from a languid heaviness which had almost robbed me of my senses. She discharged a large quantity of bile, and at last opened her eyes, which she fixed on me, seeming to say, 'tis to you I owe the life I was within an ace of losing.

By the bile she brought up I knew the cause of her disorder, and repeated the medicine, with this alteration, of giving it her in warm water, and it had the effect I proposed; I then ordered them to chafe and rub her with warm napkins, which by their gentle heat reanimated her frozen muscles. In a quarter of an hour after I pressed her to take some soup designed for next morning; this done, I went and commanded that no one should presume to disturb her on any account; I intended she should not proceed in  
her

journey, which the landlord, to whom I related my reasons, approved of, knowing that a day longer spent at his house, would certainly turn to his greater gain.

I RETURNED to Clarinda's chamber, the violence of her vomiting had made her drowsy; I held the soup some time before she got over the sleepiness; at last she awaked, and drank the basin off, the pleasing warmth soon put her into a fine sleep, and the maid presently followed her example; as for my part I flung myself into an easy chair by the fire, having placed near her whatever might be thought necessary in case she awoke.

I HAD just settled myself to sleep, when I was roused by some words which Clarinda uttered in a low voice. I listened very attentively, for my love was too considerable  
not



not to lay hold of what she uttered in this dream, which might probably let me into some of her secrets. Cruel man, said she, with some emotion, her tears at the same time forcing a passage between her eyelids, what reason did my conduct ever afford you to entertain such villainous suspicions of my virtue ; 'tis true he loves me, but I never gave the least encouragement to his unlawful passion, wherefore then would you take away my life thou barbarian ? hold, for God's sake, inhuman as he is, yet he is my husband.

THESE words were spoke with an energy and gesture, as strong and lively as if she had been in the scene of action. Upon this she moved herself into an easier posture, which was followed by a still and sweet sleep : the little I gathered from these words seemed to give me a  
most

most terrible idea of her misfortunes. I was buried in these reflections when the noise of sundry horses gave me to understand that the coach was going off; I went down to tell the coachman that as my cousin and I intended to defer our journey, he must take particular care of our baggage; at the same time I ordered the cook to make proper broths for a sick person. I then went to bed, and as soon as I got up again, repaired with eagerness to Clarinda's apartment, to enquire after her health, in which my own was greatly concerned, and felt her pulse, it was rather too quick, but barring that she found herself tolerably easy. It is very late, surely the coach must be gone; yes madam, replied I, when you are well recovered of your disorder, we shall easily find means to pursue our journey in a more agreeable manner I hope, if you deign to think me worthy to have  
the

the honour of being your safeguard on the road; as for that, replied Clarinda, I must take you at your word, and shall trust myself entirely to your prudence and discretion; indeed madam, cries the waiting woman, and so you ought, if you knew all, for the gentleman has given great proofs of his capacity and management, it is to him that you owe the recovery of your life this night, I really thought you dead, and fear you have actually hurt yourself as it is. How, what hurt replied I in a consternation, has your lady been in any danger of it? Pshaw, replies Clarinda, she is a simpleton, do not mind her; indeed you will, madam continued I, do very ill to conceal it, for if you have reason to suspect any such thing, help is soon to be got, be it as it will, I shall go in search of some immediately. No, sir, replied she, with her wonted goodness, you are too

too serviceable to me here, this is nothing at all, besides I am quite easy whilst you are with me, and have had too remarkable a demonstration of the necessity of your assistance this last night, to hazard the want of it in case I should relapse. I observed so much complaisance in her charming eyes this enchanting moment, that I flung myself on my knees at her bedside, now I am completely happy madam, said I laying hold of one of her fair hands, since you are thoroughly persuaded how ready I am to contribute all in my power to your assistance, yes beyond dispute you may eternally depend upon me ; the grief I saw you oppressed with when you entered the coach, made me study with circumspection your countenance, and endeavour to find out your destiny ; I see but too plainly my conjectures were just ; how unhappy am I not to have you confide in me, and what comfort might



might you find by unbofoming your misfortunes to one who is fo fenfibly affected with them; my youth deters you, but O heavens, if you knew me, you would not be apprehenfive of any indiscretion from thence; ah, 'tis becaufe you have given me reason to fear it, replied ſhe, that I am fo dubious of reposing any trust in you, but no more of that, you have found the way to cover all the paſt in oblivion, by the many ſervices you have done me; do not lay me under a neceſſity, added ſhe, of repenting that I ever was beholden to you for them, by a paſſion which can no wiſe ſuit the condition you ſuppoſe me in; well madam, replied I ſighing, hereafter I will do the beſt I can to ſtifle it, and ſhall eſteem myſelf happy if an abſolute ſubmiſſion to your commands may engage you to think me a faithful man, in whom you may place an entire confidence, for to  
tell

tell you the truth madam, if I may presume to do so, you may find me of service to you in the present unhappy situation of your affairs; the death you escaped, and from which you was so providentially preserved. Ah, what is that you tell me replies she, pale as death, who could give you such distinct ideas of the greatness of my evils; you must be acquainted with them 'tis past all doubt, and I shall feel the power and energy of your words; have I betrayed myself, good God, in my faintings or in my sleep; saying these words she burst into a flood of tears, but was too greatly oppressed to give the proper vent to her grief.

I WAS now sensible of the error I had committed, for I went too far, but there was no recalling of my words. Sir, continued this fair one in tears, by all the tenderness you profess for me, I conjure you to disclose

close by what means you have explored my fatal story. I scarce gave attention to these words, but her tears found a passage to my heart, for I knew to appease her griefs it was absolutely necessary to tell her the truth, or own I imposed on her by the pretended science I boasted of. Young as I was, my honour and resolution were too firm to deceive her, and therefore frankly confessed that the knowledge I had of her misfortunes was entirely owing to chance, I then related to her the whole adventure of her sleep, in which I artfully introduced the concern I felt for her life, and assured her I would have run the most hazardous risk to have saved it.

It seems then, sir, replied she, that from the first moment you saw me, providence marked you out for my preserver, and I am the more obliged to you as the appearances of  
my

my condition must really paint me in a guilty light, which I presume was the reason of your attempts that occasioned my complaints against you, but I perceive by the conclusion of your story, you entertained a just and favourable opinion of me; I have not done the same in respect to you, for I thought you very different from what you really appear to be; how happy should I be madam, replied I, if you was thoroughly convinced of what you say, and if I could signalize my esteem for you by some more arduous and essential services; you have done that already, continued she, and if you think well of my friendship in return, you may perhaps find it so strict and tender, that you will have no reason to regret the impossibility I am under of affording you more, but you shall judge yourself if it be in my power to proceed further than amity; saying these words, she



she began her story in the following manner.

## CH A P. X.

### *CLARINDA's story.*

**I** WAS born in London, on what month or year is of no great importance to mention. My father died very young, and left us, my sister and me to comfort a wife who loved him tenderly, and was beloved again by him. I shall not trifle away the time in rehearsing the occurrences of my infant years, for I want strength to relate passages of much greater consequence.

AN aunt who lived in the country solicited my mother's permission that she might have the care of my younger sister, she could not refuse it, in a short time after she left us, we were informed that lord M——  
had

had married her ; the match appeared too advantageous for my mother to refuse her ready concurrence to it, and I was far from being sensible of the envy younger sisters usually entertain on such occasions : on the contrary, my joy was real for the happiness she experienced, and I made her sincere compliments thereupon. She often informed me by her letters, of the successive pleasures she enjoyed, for her husband cut a considerable figure in the county where he lived, having a very fine seat ; and his goodness to her, occasioned a passionate fondness for him. After these happy nuptials several considerable matches were offered me, my mother having left me the absolute power of chusing a husband to my own liking, and I was resolved it should be one after my own heart. But as I was difficult in my choice, and of a sprightly disposition, none of them who paid their

respects to me, had the satisfaction to please. I bantered in a jocular way, the inclinations I found my companions had to matrimony, but they often told me it would be their turn, and perhaps I might be caught in the snare before them. Their prediction was verified as to my being married, but, alas! its consequence proved the possibility of a misery more terrible in this, than the single state.

My mother and I being one day invited to a ball which an aunt of mine gave to the ladies of that part of the town in which she lived, we went to it. I was richly dressed out, (at seventeen years we are all fond of finery and pleasure) and the thoughts of the ball gave me an air of ease and vivacity, that greatly contributed to the advantageous display of my natural charms. Fatal assembly! destructive place! here commenced

menced the series of my misfortunes. We had not danced above two hours when a splendid crowd of people gorgeously dressed in masquerade, entered the ball-room, among whom a tall, well-proportioned man with a majestic air which distinguished him from the rest of his company, attracted in an instant, the eyes of the whole assembly; he was soon called out to dance, which he did in a surprizing easy and graceful manner. His turn next came of selecting a lady out; he approached my aunt, who graciously gave him leave to please himself, on which he surveyed all about him, and fixed his choice on me, to whom he rather flew than came, and laying his glove at my feet, presented me his hand.

Vanity, which by your account of yourself, often ruled your heart on such occasions, elated me greatly with this preference, which he easily read in my eyes, being a considera-



ble proficient in this dumb language. We danced some time, at last the country dances beginning, gave him an opportunity of conducting me back to my seat, then setting one knee to the ground as soon as I was placed, said to me, You see, fair lady, how soon such remarkable gravity as mine is overthrown, when its eye is attracted by so charming a face as yours, but however pleasing this occasion is to me, yet I may wish I had never met it, if it be past my power to attain the summit of all my happiness, by being acceptable to you. I did not imagine that the sight of me could render you unhappy, but that need not trouble you, for I can soon remedy it by keeping out of your way, answered I a little tartly. How unfortunate am I, cried he, not to be understood, I have but one word more to say on this subject, that is, you will be henceforth all my felicity, all my care, and my study,

study, I shall not, henceforward, breathe nor live but for you, without you, adieu pleasures, life, and all that is dear. These words were concluded with a most respectful bow, and then he retired.

As my mother's house was open to all the polite world, he introduced himself as a visitant the ensuing day; his engaging behaviour and civil carriage, soon gained him the affections of our family; his character was esteemed by every body, for he had seen the world, and knew how to please every one, by winning on their weaknesses; his conversation, which he ever agreeably varied, gained on me so far as to be uneasy when deprived of it, if a day passed without his coming to see us, the house seemed to me a desert, but at his return he appeared more charming than ever. My prejudice was so strong for him, that whatever he said or did was in-

comparable; his taste for dress so exquisitely curious, was a model for such to copy who piqued themselves on a nicety in attire; when he made a grand entertainment, he received the guests with such an air of freedom and pleasantness, that he seemed not to be a master of the feast, but rather a friend who came to lend his assistance in doing the honours requisite on the occasion; if he lost at play he bore it so greatly like a gentleman, that the servants never could read by his countenance or actions whether fortune favoured or jilted him, and at all events they were sure of his liberality; in short, this glittering struck me, though I was never sensible of any real love for him, yet by custom I grew so fond of his company, that I was ever uneasy in his absence.

HE soon perceived the length my prejudices carried me in his favour,  
though

though he never dropped a word about his passion since the ball, and even in this proceeding I found reason to increase my admiration for him, yet he did not let slip any opportunity wherein his actions might give me room to think he loved me, he knew blue was my favourite colour, and notwithstanding he daily changed his dress, yet he more frequently appeared in this colour than any other. He found out my passionate fondness for shews, and carried me to every fine sight he heard of; we seldom missed the play, I found myself mistress of a beautiful set of the best dramatic writings, without being able to say he gave me them, for there happening to be a lottery, he purchased a ticket for me, by which I gained this prize; in a word nothing could be more delicate than the methods he took. I am satisfied I have dwelt too long on this subject, but it was owing to his character,

I 4

which



which was charming. By this he drew me on to the irrecoverable point he wished for.

AFTER three months spent in establishing with the utmost care and assiduity our opinion of him, he came to us one morning in a pensive air and deep melancholy in his countenance, a great alteration from his usual gaiety, insomuch that my mother and I soon perceived it; as we looked on each other as bosom friends, we asked with some concern the cause of his griefs; my fate is so cruel, answered he, that it surpasses the worst you can imagine, they would have me, ladies, marry a rich and beautiful young lady; I can't see you have any reason in that, interrupts my mother, to accuse your stars; ah madam, replies he, with some warmth, what another feels cannot make any impression on you; I had rather forego the ten thousand

thousand pounds my uncle is to give me on this marriage, than wed a person I cannot love, no, I am too honest to make any woman unhappy. Your sentiments, sir, says my mother, are noble, but if your inclinations are not for the pleasures of matrimony, why do you not solicit your parents to free you from that constraint they are going to lay you under? I positively cannot refuse my parents the satisfaction of seeing me married, besides, far from bearing any antipathy to the state, I would, if in my power, be engaged in it to morrow morning; they give me free liberty to chuse for myself, and only propose this lady on the supposition that she be agreeable to me, but you shall hear, madam, continued he, the letters they have writ on this occasion, and then you will judge if it is in my power to refuse a father and uncle who are so doatingly fond of me, this

comfort. Upon this he read them to us, they clearly convinced us of the immense riches he possessed, and satisfied us that the woman who married into his family, must enjoy great advantages.

My mother congratulated him on this affair; this is not enough, madam, to compliment me, replies he, you, you alone can compleat my happiness; yes madam, continues he, throwing himself at her feet, and shedding his perfidious tears, 'tis in your breast to prevent my being the most miserable of mortals; I adored your fair daughter ever since the first moment I saw her, and imagine she is not averse to me, a person of her stamp is not obliged to avow openly that she is ready for the sacred rites, but she may, if my expectations are vain, strike here and stab me to the heart.

He

HE spoke these last words with such a moving accent, that we were both greatly affected with his grief, she would have raised him, saying to him, that my assent was the only thing that must decide his fate, he then turned to me in the same humble posture? pronounce, fair lady, continued he, my doom, my life or death depends on the sentence, take which you will. I was some time ere I could speak, and the uncertainty my silence laid him under, so sorely perplexed him, that he died away in a fainting fit. This state which I had plunged him in reproached me in such a manner, that at length pity, and the fatal prejudice I had in his favour, overcame me; he recovered, and what shall I say to you, I at last received him for my husband.

NEVER



NEVER was marriage more hastily perfected, nor sooner repented of, I found but too late that love had no share at all in the solemn rites of Hymen. He was hardly married when all his flattering appearances vanished, and made room for nought but anxiety and jealous cares, he beheld every thing I did or said, nay the very motions of sight, with a suspicious eye; each returning day laid open fresh scenes for his ruling passion to exert itself in; my house became a desert and my friends soon dispersed; instead of pleasures, which I hitherto abounded with, my life was spent in restless anxiety, and never ceasing tears; his jealousy carried things to the extremity of an absolute order never to enter my mother's house, nor enjoy the sight of any of my relations. I sighed and groaned in secret, but never complained; my  
virtue

virtue sustained all those oppressions by a submission to the will of heaven, whence alone I could hope for relief.

I HAD languished some time in this manner, when a law suit claimed my sister's, together with her husband's attendance in London; the tender affection she ever bore me, determined the preference she gave to my house, rather than her mother's, she alighted at my door, that she might have the satisfaction of surprizing me, nor was she mistaken in her design, and we heartily embraced each other. She presented her husband, who appeared exactly as she drew him in her letters, that is to say, a worthy, good natured, chearful husband, mine happened to be out when they arrived, I received them in the best manner I could, and testified my gratitude to both for the honour and pleasure they did  
me

me, in preferring my habitation, it was so long since I had tasted any delight, that the satisfaction of seeing a sister, always loving and loved, seemed to me a thing entirely new, and quite transported me beyond measure. Lord M——, my brother-in-law, an accomplished gentleman whose conversation was free and lively, together with my sister and I, passed the day in mutual congratulations and testimony of our sincere joy of seeing each other.

WE were all seated at supper quite jovial and merry, when my husband entered the room, and surprized us in the midst of that gaiety which we usually possess when all about us pleases. We all got up, and I presented my sister to him, and her husband; he had never seen Lord M—— before, whom he embraced with so much coolness, that it made me  
tremble

tremble: I would have had him sit down with us; he answered in the same indifferent manner, that he was out of order, and therefore should go to bed, which he did, without taking further notice of any one. Lord M—— and my sister stared at each other, and were so surprized at this unaccountable reception, that they could not forbear asking me the reason of it. My tears satisfied their question: they had heard my husband was jealous, but could not believe he made me unhappy. My sister convinced me of the share she bore in my misfortunes by her tears, and her spouse shewed a concern so great and singular for me, that he seemed resolved, at all events, to extricate me out of my slavery.

I WENT to my husband's chamber with fear and trembling, he was in bed, and asleep, or feigned to be so. I could not help thinking some heavy token of his unjust indignation



tion would fall upon me, notwithstanding the flattering prospect of deliverance by his sleep, from the scene which I now expected and greatly feared, though I had been inured to his ill usage. I spent the night in tears, and bitter reflections on my unhappy situation, compared with that of my sister's. At break of day he rose, called his valet, and ordered him to get ready every thing necessary for his going to his country seat. I could not help demonstrating to him my surprize, and representing in the mildest manner possible, that this proceeding must appear in an excessive odd light to my sister and her husband. What is that to me, replies he, with a flighting and unconcerned air, I am not obliged to lay myself under any restraint upon their account; when people come to my house, I should be glad to have word sent me before hand, beside, I am willing to leave you free  
to

to enjoy your new taste ; I found you so far transported with the pleasure of seeing your brother-in-law, that I would be no stay or hindrance to your indulging in the satisfaction. This reproach so confounded me, that I could not make any reply to it ; all I could possibly do, was to sigh and tell him, after some time, that since I found every one of my relations were odious in his sight, I should beg of my sister to look out some other habitation, as this, in all likelihood, would be very uneasy to her, as well as myself. I have long since, interrupts he, experienced the evil dispositions of your crooked soul, and know you can wrest every thing to serve your perverse purposes, but I shall not take that to heart, you may do as you please in this affair. Saying these words, he flung out of the room, looking on me with a furious and revengeful eye. I spent two hours in the most uncertain and  
distracting

distracting reflections, not knowing what part to take in this nice affair; for I could not resolve to let my sister know the cause of this fresh vexation which my husband gave me. In the midst of these perplexities she came in; I laid open to her all my sorrows; she was much affected with them, and said, I ought, at all events to withdraw myself from such tyrannical usage. It was then proposed I should go off with her, as soon as her affairs were brought to an issue, and advised me to act with courage, and preserve to myself a decent liberty. As for my part, said she, your husband's want of respect, and ill-manners does not trouble me in the least, for I am resolved to stay here in spite of his out of the way suspicions, and the more so, now I know the cruel situation you are in. Her vivacity and sprightliness cheered my almost extinguished courage, and raised me to the resolution of acting for  
the

the future, agreeably to the counsel given me by this dear sister. Her husband sent to know if he might come in, we drank our coffee together, and thus we passed fifteen days in the agreeable pleasure of seeing each other.

My husband was all this time at his country seat, for I sent two or three times a messenger to bring me an account of him. I was always told that he was either a hunting, or gone to visit some of his neighbours, this conduct of his surprized me, for he never used to be so quiet. I often told my astonishment to my sister, but she encouraged me with a laugh, saying, perhaps he is working his conversion. My sister's husband diverted me with his droll and lively humour, and I experienced a singular pleasure in his company.



## C H A P. XI.

*Continuation of CLARINDA's  
story.*

ONE day my sister being gone out, he took hold of that opportunity to make me sensible how greatly he interested himself in my misfortunes, and persuaded me to end them ; for what you can remedy, said he, do not make yourself unhappy all the days of your life, you are young and handsome, and I am sure are not made to pass your time in this shocking manner ; come along with us into the country where your sister and I will do our best to dissipate your melancholy, and make you amends by a more agreeable future life, for the many past tormenting moments you have weathered through with a husband absolutely unworthy of you. Oh how many  
men

men would think themselves completely happy in his place, to possess such a treasure ! why was not I the man ? madam you should have enjoyed the reverse of your present state, for it would be the pride, glory, and sole felicity of my life, to procure you pleasure and contentment. What say you, brother ? interrupted I, surprized at this speech, I take your reasoning in this manner to proceed rather from your facetious humour, than any meaning you can have in it. No, no, madam, replied he with eagerness, from the first moment I saw you, I resigned my heart up entirely to you, and the lively affection your lovely eyes created in me can never be effaced by time. I am sensible of the vanity of my passion, which I now endeavour to overcome, and shall still do my best to stifle ; I am too honest to let my wife, who justly merits all my esteem, see my passion, but alas ! I  
am

am not master of it, for it is too powerful for my virtue. Ah put a stop to it, replied I with grief, and do not deprive me of your friendship which so greatly delights me, by making it criminal, this insight which you have given me into your unlawful love, alarms and afflicts me as much as the proceedings of my unjust spouse, for whom, though I do not entertain the sentiments I ought to do, yet my duty will ever preserve me from the fires of an unlawful passion, why did you not conceal from me, continued I, this fresh addition to my misery. Don't call, said my brother, this respectful passion by so odious a name, it shall not trouble you, nor engage you to answer it in any shape, I know how to hide the secret fire that inflames me, and my sentiments for the future shall appear in no other dress, than such as the most tender and most sincere friendship may openly wear. I wish for  
no

no return from you, I respect you too much to hope it, and this shall be the last time I will ever entertain you on this subject; but suffer me to manifest this my friendship for you by the concern I shall always profess for any thing that regards you, look on me as a brother, which I shall convince you of in the nicest and most arduous occasions.

I WAS about to answer him, and oppose a love I had reason to fear, though decked with the most specious name of friendship, when my husband, whom I imagined in the country, entered the room on a sudden, with eyes replete with fury, I am very glad, said he addressing himself to me, to find by the evidence of my ears and eyes, that my suspicions were not without foundation; although I was strongly inclined to think you capable of being a traitor to me, yet I could never believe



lieve it possible for you to carry your perfidy to the extremity of listening to a brother-in-law : I shall find a way to revenge myself, but in the mean time follow me, cried he, in a tone of voice that made me tremble, since you do not know how to preserve, even the appearances of virtue, it is requisite I should henceforward be the guardian of it. I would have made him a reply, but he did not give me time, for seizing my arm with all his might, he forced me out of the apartment, my brother advanced to prevent it, and dissuade him with all the prudence imaginable, not to yield to his unjust prejudices ; he answered him very short, that he was his own master, and knew how to act without advice from any one. Saying these words he turned his back upon him, and forc'd me into a coach, and carried me to his country-house, giving me frequently

quently to understand what usage he intended for me.

How unhappy is the fate of a weak woman when exposed to the brutalities of a jealous husband; I felt all the rigour he could inflict during my stay in the country. There was not a day passed wherein some of the most trifling objects did not appear to him reasons sufficient to make me feel the most bitter hardships; his soul, filled with the airy phantom he himself raised, suggested to him every moment, some chimerical proofs to corroborate the suspicions he had of my conduct; I could instance to you a great number of examples of the surprizing prejudices this his jealousy created; I have sadly experienced them, but that you may judge yourself, I shall only relate one ridiculous adventure of his, whence you may imagine the rest.

AN elderly clergyman used to come twice a week to our house to read prayers to me by my husband's permission; it happened one time that the person who used to attend was taken ill, and sent his curate to supply his place, he was a handsome comely man, and the upper part of his face had somewhat in it greatly like my brother-in-law's, my husband was struck with the features of the man, for his jealousy suggested to him this must be my brother, though he saw him only passing by; he formed a resolution to try whether his suspicions were just, and in order to that he gave the clergyman opportunities of being alone with me. He had some time before bored several holes in the cieling of my chamber, which he had so artfully contrived, that without being observed he could from the room above see

see every thing which was transacted in mine.

ONE day this same clergyman stayed after prayers to dine with us, my husband imagining this might be the time appointed by us two, runs to his two peep-holes, of which I told you before, in order to find out if his suspicions were well grounded. The clergyman laid hold of this opportunity to solicit my interest for a poor inhabitant of the place, whom my husband detained in prison, for some trespass he had been guilty of, he put on the air of a suppliant, often bowing, he joined his hands together, and used sundry other respectful gestures in order to obtain my promise and consent for his liberty, averring that his confinement must bring inevitable ruin on his wife and children. My husband, who could not clearly comprehend our discourse, now began to believe he

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had



had more and more reason to think he was right as to this clergyman, and that the pity which I expressed on his moving recital, flowed from the sorrow I conceived for not having it in my power to see him oftener, but he resolved to convict me as clear as the sun, and catch me in such a manner as it should be impossible for me to deny the fact.

HE took the following night for the execution of his scheme ; the clergyman lay at our house that night by reason of the badness of the weather ; he made me get out of bed to see, as he said, the confusion and disorder he observed among my maids, and under this pretence conducted me to the clergyman's chamber. As much acquainted as I was with his ridiculous whimsies, yet I did not imagine he could possibly carry his folly to such an excess. The good man was fast asleep, See, says he, madam,

madam, pointing to the clergyman, the object of your libidinous desires. How, cried I, in a surprize, what fir, can you add to your unjust suspicions, the imagination that I am capable of being criminal with such a person as this? You are good at plots, replied he, but do not think me such a fool as to be imposed upon by your sham dresses. Saying these words he gave the poor man such a blow as I thought must have dispatched him immediately. The clergyman set up a most horrible roar, and rose in great surprize; my husband, still wedded to his opinion, would have renewed his assault, but the clergyman, who was by this time thoroughly awake, flung himself to the feet of the bed, and stood prepared to defend himself, covered with Blood by the severe trial he had already gone through; by this time my husband perceiving, though too

late, his error, retired or rather flew, in a most confounded fright.

IN spite of the concern I must necessarily be in on this occasion, I could not help laughing outright at the horror the clergyman shewed in his countenance, who left our house, vowing revenge, which he soon after effected, he made his complaint, and put my husband into the spiritual court, which cost us a great deal of money and time, besides a journey to London, and had not my husband made a great deal of interest, in all probability he would have smarted very severely for his indiscretion.

I WAS in great hopes these difficulties which his suspicions had surrounded him with, might prove of great benefit in correcting his unjust jealousy, but here I was deceived, for it daily grew more insupportable, and at last arrived to such a pitch, that I  
was

was obliged to withdraw from its persecutions. My retreat was to the arms of my dear sister; here I thought myself so secure from any thing that might naturally be expected at the hands of a jealous husband, whose subject of complaint was in some measure justified by my imprudence in seeking refuge at a sister's, whose husband had given him umbrage.

I was here in perfect tranquility for fifteen days, and intending never to think of him more, I imagined myself the happiest of womankind, entirely freed from any further sufferings from his ill usage. My brother never attempted to entertain me with any discourse that might renew the memory of the passion he declared for me. Buried in this profound ease, and perfectly secure, in the middle of the night I observed the chamber-door open, I arose in a great



surprize, and heard the voice of one of my sister's chambermaids in deep discourse with somebody; I called her, she came, but alas, how great was my fright, when I found my husband along with her, whom I discovered by the light of a wax candle which he carried in his hand. He appeared to me armed with a poniard. I cried out in a most lamentable manner, and which might have been heard a great way off, but he fastened the door, and observing himself alone, approached the bed like a madman. Vile wretch, said he to me, shewing me his poniard, behold I am furnished with what will make me some amends for my stained honour. I was just going to submit when the chamber-door opened, and my brother appeared, he threw himself without delay upon my husband. I took hold of this favourable interval to fly with precipitation, together with my waiting woman

woman. We were safe out of the house, and not knowing what to do, or which way to turn ourselves, we met in the street with a man on horseback, this was the postillion belonging to our coach, who informed us what method we must take to get clear off: he told us the coach was just ready to set out, that there was just two places vacant, and he knew no other way left us but to take them. We followed his advice, and without farther consideration flung ourselves into the coach. You now see, sir, the true cause of my sighs and tears, hence you will judge if my situation will admit me to hear ought with satisfaction but what may contribute to my relief, and if it be in my power to take notice of any impression, but such as tends to ward off the blow my fate threatens. I know not what has happened at my brother's since my departure, ought I not to be in continual fears of a

rencounter with my inhuman husband. Alas, adds she, with tears and trembling, am not I the most unhappy of womankind !

CLARINDA's health, which her husband's insults had greatly disordered, was re-established in a few days ; we passed our time in devising new methods to baffle any fresh attempts he might possibly make against her life, and finding ourselves well enough to support the fatigue of travelling, we took a chaise, in which we placed ourselves with the waiting woman in the best manner that we could. Clarinda to whom I promised the residue of my adventures, claimed the performance thereof, which I undertook with pleasure, charmed to find it in my power to afford her amusement on the road, and accordingly resumed the thread of my history in the following terms.

C H A P.

## C H A P. XII.

*Continuation of the Author's history.*

T H E R E lived in the town in which we were quartered, a very pretty lady, whose name I shall call Sophia ; her husband, a very amiable young man, about thirty years of age, and whom she loved with a boundless passion, died during my involuntary abode at the prince of ——'s court. This melancholy affair in which every one sympathized, rendered her inconsolable, her sweetness, and real merit gained her the esteem of all the ladies in her circle of acquaintance. I believe after I have said this, it is impossible to add any thing that may enhance her worth. The colonel's lady, whom I have heretofore mentioned, being her intimate friend, not only partook of her just griefs, but quitted the manage-



management of her own family, to live with her for a time, lay in the same chamber, and never left her a moment. The colonel took this opportunity to offer me an apartment in his house, and our friendship grew to such an extreme, that one was never seen without the other, so that this reciprocal union soon acquired us the name of Inseparables from the whole town. But in friendship as in love, we cannot promise ourselves a constancy.

THE colonel's lady, not perceiving her friend's melancholy diminish, resolved, if possible, to dissipate it, and therefore engaged her to see company, under the pretence that she was quite wearied out with being always alone. This proposition startled the afflicted fair, which she observing, proposed, in order to induce her to it by slow degrees, the admittance of only two friends, of whom the  
colonel

colonel was one, and myself the other. I suppose, without doubt, the choice of me was owing to my youth, the art I had in amusing the colonel's lady, made her imagine I was well able to answer her good intentions in diverting her afflicted friend. She had told her that I was a man of a free, but not dissolute discourse, and that my conversation was mighty merry and droll. I was received by madam Sophia under this lucky prejudice ; a prepossession in a person's favour is no trifle, on the contrary, it greatly contributes to make whatever is advanced, relished with a better goût. The first day was taken up in ceremony and vain complaisance ; I was strictly observed in every thing I said or did, being represented before to be of a very facetious humour, but my conduct did not answer the picture. Her distracting sorrow infected us so, that our entertainment turned chiefly upon serious subjects.

subjects. I did my best to enliven the conversation, at least, I made it last longer than usual. The widow had a great deal of wit, nor did I think our company tedious, which is saying very much, because mourning and gravity are seldom agreeable to persons of my age and constitution.

THE second visit we staid supper, the distance and reservedness I observed at my first appearance, gave way when the desert came, to the gaiety always natural to me; some things I said pleased so well they raised smiles, and mirth began to dispel melancholy. Nothing defaces beauty more than grief; I had not taken any particular notice of madam Sophia, but these smiles, like a ray of light, made her appear so charming, adding a lustre to her natural perfections, that I beheld her with attention, and felt a something I cannot express, and which I never experienced

perienced before. To this passion succeeded a fond desire of pleasing her, far different from what they are sensible of, who unmoved withstand the sight of beauty, and I began to display a little of the vivacity they were pleased to attribute to me. Ever since her husband's death she had constantly gone to bed at ten, but this night lengthened her sitting up till past eleven, and in a few days after, midnight found us seated at the table. Near a month passed without my once failing to sup at this house. I spent my time after dinner with Sophia, and had acquired by complaisance and little services I did her, a bye name, which was that of her slave, this office obliged me to an absolute submission to all her commands, which were not at all disagreeable to me, for I found they always suited the bent of my inclination; sometimes she ordered me to read



read to her ; at other times to perform on my violin, or tell her diverting stories. Our time was wholly taken up in these innocent employments, to which this fair lady was so accustomed, that when I came later than ordinary, she looked out of humour ; I always thought this behaviour proceeded from jest, rather than any real uneasiness, but the sequel proved, that if she feigned these trifling caprices, she had without reflection, given them the resemblance of reality. It was near eight o'clock at night in winter, and nigh the time I should take leave of madam Sophia, having an engagement upon my hands that evening, when she suddenly stopped me ; you are in great haste, sir, said she, I ever believed a slave should not engage himself in any affair without the consent of his mistress, but I begin to perceive your shackles seem insupportable to you. Well, well, I give you  
your

your liberty, go, but remember well I will not suffer you to render me any services under the name I heretofore gave you. These words were delivered with so serious a tone and positive an air of contempt, that they made me tremble as much as if I had been the real slave in question. I made her no reply but cast my eyes on the ground in a very respectful manner; the widow in her turn greatly confounded at her having made so open a declaration hid her face with her hand, and fruitlessly endeavoured to conceal a blush she could not hide. How becoming is modesty in a beautiful face; we looked on each other with fear, and whenever our eyes met we immediately cast them down again; you laugh, madam, said I to Clarinda, I will hold a wager you think I was in love, and would make a mystery of it to you, but in truth you are deceived, for it was only a  
fancy

fancy for her, and that is all, I believe you, replied she, but this same fancy, this concern favours much of love, let it be so, madam, continued I, it shall be just what you please, but I assure you these dispositions fall far short of those I feel for you; I see I must hold my tongue for the future, interrupts the fair lady, fir, you lay hold of all opportunities to entertain me with a passion; I am all obedience, returned I, seeing her angry, excuse me madam, this my want of respect, I shall do my best to perform your injunctions for the future, but alas! how difficult it is always to restrain the overflowings of the heart.

THE handsome widow by this behaviour having proved what I said of her, was the first who broke silence, by saying in a constrained smile, since I won't detain you any longer, fir, adieu, I wish you a  
great

great deal of pleasure, the cast I know you are of, makes me imagine you will not only afford your company a great deal of mirth, but at the same time receive all you can wish yourself; as for me I have nought else to expect but tears; ah, madam, interrupted I, can you think I would not willingly partake of your sorrows, or that I am not capable of making you more essential sacrifices than this of a party of pleasure, which I am resolved I will not taste, it being a greater pleasure by far to dry up your tears, and by my stay dispel your griefs; no, no, replied she, retiring, go make your court, all I meant by what I said was to try if to the many good qualities you already possess, you added that of a good soul. I would have persisted, but she opposed it, by giving me furthermore to understand that it would not appear decent for her to be found *tete a tete* with me.



I obeyed, and left her with a concern which I never before felt. When I had spent my evening according to my engagement, I got to my chamber and went to bed, where, contrary to my usual custom, I did not close my eyes, but revolved in my mind the several occurrences of the preceeding day.

It was about four o'clock in the morning when I began to sleep, youth will not entirely lose its dues, when I heard a hasty knocking at my door, a footman, sent by the colonel, came to fetch me in a great hurry, his lady being much disordered, and he knowing I was master of an infallible cure for the cholick, though they expected the arrival of the surgeon, whom they had sent for, yet he desired me to try if my remedy could not remove the cause of her disorder. I wrapped myself up in my nightgown and came, but  
how

how dismal a spectacle ; on one side my eyes were attacked with the sight of the colonel in tears, on the other his wife struggling for life as in her last agony ; the surgeon unluckily out of the way obliged us to send to the next town for another, which I believing would be some time before he came, gave her my remedy ; this medicine dilated her bowels and effectually removed her cholick, but it was too late, her violent struggles during the pain she was in, had burst an artery, which soon manifested itself by a copious vomiting of blood. The physician of the place came to our assistance, who order'd her bleeding, but there was no surgeon to be found in our emergency ; I ventured, in this extreme danger, to perform the operation ; it was attended with success, for the vomiting ceased, but in two hours after, her great loss of blood was followed by a miscarriage, which

which robbed her of her life the next day.

HER husband became so inconsolable, he would have destroyed himself, and had it not been for my opportune invention, he had infallibly been the victim of his own despair. Sophia, ever compassionate, was touched to the quick at the loss of a friend who had been so serviceable to her in the like distress, offered, with all the good nature imaginable, to accompany the dead lady's sister, whose grief was no way inferior to the husband's. The colonel's situation was too deplorable to refuse the generous and grateful assistance her good disposition offered him, and we constantly kept him company: insensibly he began to grow more easy under his loss, for Sophia was too charming, and too sincere in her endeavours of consolation, to have her cares not meet with their desired intent.

tent. He accustomed himself by little and little, to the pleasure of seeing her ; love steals into the human soul in various shapes.

ONE day being engaged at chess with the colonel, there happened to arise a difference between us about a move, Sophia whom we esteemed a heroine at this diversion, was applied to to decide the dispute, which she very handsomely refused, by saying she would not make either of us discontented, and therefore desired we would begin the battle again. The colonel, who always played with great earnestness, imagining himself in the right, and that her determination must of course be in his favour, rejected the advice, and redoubled his intreaties for her to proceed to sentence. The fair widow, unable to resist any longer, being so closely urged to speak, determined the victory in my favour ; the colonel



nel, touched to the life, got up, saying with a malicious smile, he must be a very fool to appeal to a partial judge, and especially to one whose heart was placed on me. Upon this speech Sophia cast her eyes upon me and seemed to reproach me for my indiscretion. In the mean time my inclinations for the charming widow grew stronger and stronger daily, but according to the usual caprice of the sex, as soon as Sophia was convinced she had made a conquest of my heart, her love for me in a moment vanished, at the same time I began to perceive that my company was troublesome to her, and my jealous eyes soon unravelled the secret correspondence carried on between her and the colonel. The grief I felt on this account was insupportable, I declared it to her, and my reproaches were accompanied with tears; she vindicated herself very lamely, and a forced

forced sigh or two was all the effect they had upon her.

THIS transitory flame could not be alleviated by my usual employments, I therefore began to grow mopish, melancholy, and fond of solitude; by degrees I grew a stranger to the colonel's habitation, which he took very patiently, now and then in a cool manner, asking me to come oftener, but seeming to desire my absence rather than my company. To this succeeded in a short time an entire neglect of our former friendship, love and interest are fatal rocks to the platonick passion. The occult sciences, at last, to which I gave myself up, wiped away all remembrances of this my first flame: and, madam, said I, this is the conclusion of my story. At the same time it may not be improper to inform the reader, that the whole of my account is now compleated, in the which he will find that in the latter part of my

life, my unhappy hours were at last changed to more agreeable ones, Fortune began to smile, and continued so.

### C H A P. XIII.

*Story of a foreign lady.*

**H**APPY as I now was, without any misfortune of my own to allay it, yet I was not long without some violent emotions of the tender kind in the behalf of a lady, who had lately taken a house near me in the country, and whom, as she seemed of a melancholy disposition, I endeavoured to divert by all possible methods; at length, through much importunity, I prevailed upon her to give me the relation of her story, by which I found she was an unfortunate hypochondriac, who fancied herself a Persian princess, and consequently her story was full of strange wonders, most of which I knew were impossible to happen to  
any,

any, at least to her who was born in England, which is often of great service to the relater, as well as an amusement to the audience; and in compliance, as I mentioned before with my request, she favoured me with the following account, which I shall transmit exactly in her own words :

FRIENDSHIP is generally thought to be a scarce commodity even among brothers, and yet I believe upon examination it will be found much more scarce among sisters; indeed I never had but one, with whom I soon found it was impossible to live upon any tolerable terms, the year by which she exceeded me in age, gave her a haughtiness and affectation of superiority utterly intolerable. She was always of a surly temper, but this untoward disposition never manifested itself so fully as upon the eve of her wedding. Tired as I was of the passive part I



had so long been obliged to sustain, I broke out at length, and determined to touch her to the quick. Sister, said I to her, if a continual repetition of insults were capable of making any alteration in my health, you would, I presume, be still more liberal of them than you are at present; is it my fault, I pray you, that destiny has determined that I should resemble you in no instance? It is impossible to express the commotion and disturbance that this speech of mine produced in her, she flew upon me with all the fury of enraged malice, but I escaped her, and hid myself in a garret that was over the room where she lay. The noise she made on this occasion, was of so extraordinary a kind, that she brought the whole house up to her, father, mother and servants, who found her overwhelmed with tears, and in all the horrors of despair.

SHE gave an account of the quarrel between us, with all the aggravations

vations that malice could suggest, and protested that if the family did not interest itself in her behalf, she should take care and make use of means that would not be at all agreeable to any of them. My father and mother immediately promised to comply with her request, and desiring her at the same time to wipe away her tears, asked her what punishment she should think proper to inflict on me. I shall be very well contented, replied she, if my sister may not be permitted to appear at my wedding. I saw and heard in the mean time, all that was going forward. Every one praised her moderation, and an old servant who had never loved me, gave me a proof positive of her disposition, by padlocking the room immediately, to which I had retired.

SEEING myself thus locked in, the only resources I had, were my sighs and tears. My sister, said I to myself, well foresaw that I should

have been amply revenged of her, had I only appeared at her wedding, however she is satisfied her ugliness will be less noticed in my absence. I spent the whole day in some such reflections as these, and towards night fell asleep. During my sleep I had a very extraordinary dream : I thought I saw before me an immense space of earth and water, which ended at length in a yellow island very much elevated in the air, out of which proceeded two silver clouds, that seemed to be making towards me, followed by a number of others.

ALL these ranged themselves in two rows, and formed between the island and me, one of the longest and most shining lanes that can be conceived, a cloud much tinged with gold filled the extremity of the lane, on the side of the island, and a little child being set down upon it, the cloud all of a sudden assumed the shape of a throne, and put itself into motion.

motion. In proportion as it advanced the clouds on each side, transformed themselves into guards richly drest, who with swords in their hands, gave the little girl all the marks of the most profound veneration and respect. When this extraordinary person, who at her first coming out of the island, had seemed only a little child, had come about half way, she seemed to be a woman of about fifty years of age ; the nearer she approached, the more ancient she seemed, and when quite close, appeared a little shrivelled old woman. She looked on me with a very pleasing aspect, and said my dear I know all your distress, you may expect the utmost satisfaction from my assistance, remember the words that I am going to mention, and fail not to repeat them, " Wise " Amyas, mistress of the blue palace." She had no sooner spoke these words than she vanished away, together with every thing that had before surrounded her.



I KNOW not whether I awaked immediately or no, but the idea of my imprisonment returning again to my mind, I said sighing, ah that it were but true that the divine Amyas would take me into her protection, "Wife "Amyas, mistress of the blue palace." At the instant of pronouncing these words, I found myself undressed and laid in a good bed; I drew my hand over my eyes to feel and examine myself and come to a tolerable certainty of being awake. I drew back my curtains, and with inconceivable surprise, found my garret changed into a spacious chamber, adorned with rich tapestry, and a looking glass much larger than any I had ever seen.

IN the middle of the room, was a toilet compleatly set out, and on the side of it a table on which was placed a suit of cloaths and other appurtenances. I was going to get up immediately, but having accidentally cast my eyes on the looking glass, I found  
my

my sister, and every thing that was doing about her, reflected in it, this made me resolve to entertain myself with this diverting scene, and to stay in bed to recover the fatigue I had undergone. I shall not give you an exact account of every thing I saw, let it suffice to tell you that this wonderful looking glass presented me with a distinct view of the wedding from which my sister would have excluded me, and that the figure of her husband was by no means the least diverting of all; he was a tall, awkward fellow with a very stern countenance, putting on rather the look of a tyrant than of a bridegroom.

I GOT up at last, with a resolution to dress myself in the presents made me by Amyas, but on my first advances, the cloaths came towards me of their own accord, or seemed so to do. I resigned myself therefore entirely into the hands of the queen of fairies, contenting myself with returning her

a profusion of thanks for all that had happened, and in looking at myself in the looking glass that stood on the toilet, the other having the faculty of reflecting absent objects only. Although every thing that was put on me had a surprising effect, yet neither gold, silver nor jewels had been made use of in preparing my apparel, there was only one mark of the great power of Amyas, it consisted in the colour of my gown, which changed every fresh step I took. I walked some time, in order to enjoy at my leisure this wonderful prodigy. During this interval the marriage ceremonies of my sister were going forward; as soon as they were done, the two saloons set apart for the reception of guests, were filled.

THEY engaged but a small part of my attention, which was principally engaged in viewing my sister. She seemed to be exceeding hungry, but the more dispatch she made in helping  
ing

ing herself, the less able was she to accomplish her intention, all the dishes she touched, vanished away immediately, and came and laid themselves upon a table in my room. It is impossible to express the consternation of the famished bride, and of the whole company ; as I was still more hungry than her, I quickly finished the dishes that first came under my hands ; as soon as I had done with them, they vanished. I looked in the glass, and beheld my sister devouring the little I had left in them. I perceived by this, that the lady who had forbid my appearance at her feast, was doomed to satisfy her appetite with my leavings only. I took compassion on her, and left a good deal, that she might feast the better. Towards evening they entered into the baths, and sung catches, according to ancient custom. When they came out from thence, preparations were made for a ball. I was always exceedingly fond of dancing, so that  
the



the pleasure which others were going to take without me, began to make me very uneasy; however I soon took courage, and pronounced the words which had before been commanded me, expressing at the same time my desire to dance, upon which I heard a voice behind me, assuring me that my request should be complied with.

SCARCE had she pronounced these heart-reviving words, when the looking glass, which then reflected the hall, seemed to me at the same time to become the door; upon which we entered. Amyas, who was visible to no other eyes but mine, went and placed herself just by my sister; I made my courtesy to the company, and began to dance by myself. The justness of my dancing, and above all, the astonishing changes which were made continually in my gown astonished them all beyond measure; but they soon ceased their astonishment, to pass on me the highest encomiums.

comiums. My sister could not bear the praises she heard given me; transported with fury, and without any regard to the people who were present, she ran to me with all the air and malice of a madwoman; but the invisible Amyas prevented her coming close to me, and just touching the tip of her chin with the but end of a little ivory rod, which she held in her hand, madam bridegroom, said she, pray mind your own business, and that only. At this instant a most enormous beard of perfect jet cover'd the half of my sister's face, and took from her all desire or sollicitude about me. Having done this, Amyas made me go out and embrace her, and then carried me towards the sun with a most incredible rapidity.

AFTER we had continued going upwards for some time, now, said she, to me, you may rest yourself if you please, there is not atmosphere enough to endanger your falling. I  
must

must own that it was not without trembling that I took hold of Amyas, but what pleasure, think you, was I sensible of when I perceived that it was in my power to go higher or lower, to advance or retreat, in the same manner as if my body had been wholly immaterial. I turned my eyes towards the earth, which at the extreme distance it was then at, seemed neither very bright, nor yet totally dark. Had my guide permitted me, I could have employed myself very agreeably, in making several observations in so convenient a situation, but she vehemently opposed it; the moon, said she, will in a short time pass directly over the place where we now are, and will occasion so violent a pressure of the air, that for about the space of two minutes you will scarce be able to breath; besides, I promised to be at home in very good time, take hold of me, come let us go. On the side by which we came down, the earth appeared very luminous,

nous, because it lay before us the vast extent of the ocean. During our descent it seemed to grow still darker and darker, and when I was within a sufficient reach to be able to observe distinctly the several parts, I perceived, just under our feet, a very spacious island, the face of which I immediately recollected.

It was the very yellow island which I had before beheld in my dream, and which, in the language of the fairies, is called the island of confusion. As it had only appeared yellow to me on account of the vast distance from which we were removed, when we approached nearer it, a thousand different objects presented themselves to my view: I did not however spend much time in considering them, as they would otherwise have doubtless engaged my attention, which however was employed by somewhat still more attracting.

AMYAS,



AMYAS, of whom I still kept fast hold, underwent a perpetual metamorphosis as she went lower; her grey hairs had at first been changed into chesnut, the nearer we came the more regular her features grew, her case plumper, and her shape much more taper; in short, let it be sufficient to observe upon the whole, that she grew a perfect beauty, and instead of the old lady that I held before, I now found a young girl between seventeen and eighteen in my arms. This was the case when we were within three or four miles of the mountains in the island of confusion.

WE came down just into the middle of the isle, about a hundred yards from a river, which served by way of ditch to a city of a moderate size. As I saw neither boat nor bridge, I asked Amyas whether we were to fly over it, which we immediately performed. As soon as we came to the gate, we heard the noise of a prodigious

gious croaking, and instantly a large frog made his appearance, equal in size to a he goat, who walking upon his hind legs came to pay his respects to his mistress, and presented her the wand that I had observed her throw away during our aerial passage. As soon as she had taken it, and we had entered a saloon, which was extremely well lighted, the frog retired very modestly to the door behind us, which he shut, and immediately made a more dreadful croaking than the former. Instantly upon this noise, was heard a most astonishing sound of drums and trumpets; there were in the wall several niches very exquisitely wrought, the spaces of which were occupied by as many animals of a most prodigious size, and of a form altogether as strange; it was from hence that proceeded the noise just now mentioned.

WE then passed through a gallery, which by means of a chrystal chandelier

chandelier which was hung up in the middle, cast a most surprizing light all around; beyond that we found a pair of stairs, just like those which we had ascended before, and which led us into a large square court, paved with a greenish kind of marble, and terminated on the four sides by as many buildings composed of the same materials; in the middle was a large bason, which spouted water above thirty feet high, although it was composed of one single emerald; a number of old men and women were employed thereabouts in their several occupations cloathed in green. As soon as Amyas appeared, they all left their several busineses to run to her, and came and caressed her calling her mother all the while. The queen, in the mean time, received them with an air of such excessive prudery, that I could scarce forbear laughing to see on one side old age so sportive, and on the other youth, or rather

rather childhood so grave, and so much respected. Young woman, said Amyas to me, I do not doubt but you are greatly surprized at what you behold. What I see replied I, would be sufficient to scare me out of my senses, if I did not think that every thing here was a phantom instead of a real object. This is the effect, said she, of your prejudice and ignorance, cast your eyes, I beseech you on this looking glass, putting one into my hand, which whilst I was opening, she took the opportunity to leave me. I shudder even to this moment, whenever I think of the object which then presented itself before me ; I saw my cheeks fallen, my eyes sunk into my head, my lips of a pale, deadly hue, my mouth extended, a nose which reddened and increased in size, the longer I beheld it, a sharp chin, a forehead covered with wrinkles, and hair as white as snow ; at which I was seized with so much consternation, that I thought I should have died



died on the spot. I went immediately and looked at myself in the water, flattering myself that what I had hitherto beheld was only a dream, but alas ! I found too sad a confirmation of what I had already viewed but too often, and cried out so loud, that all the old people gather'd themselves presently about me ; my confusion was so great, that I was not able to utter a syllable so distinctly as to be understood, I became quite stupid and senseless, and remained some time in this miserable condition, lying on the ground, and leaning on the brink of the basin that was made of emerald. Having at length vented my grief by tears, and coming to myself, cruel Amyas, said I, is this all I am to expect from your protection ? you love me you say, and yet are loading me with the most dire misfortunes, if I was your enemy could you revenge yourself more compleatly than you have done ? oh, happy sister ! I even envy you your beard, your misfortunes

tunes are nothing in comparison of mine. The old people contributed still farther to my despair, by talking in the most hideous manner imaginable, and would fain have constrained me to drink some of the water of the basin, but they were suddenly prevented by the voice of a young man, who came to me from the other side of the court, he seemed to be about fifteen years of age and yet walked extremely slow considering his youth, altho' his countenance was rather heavy, yet it was far from disgusting; as soon as he came up to me, he asked me if I had ever heard of the fairy Millan? I have read of him, reply'd I, in the annals of those gentry. I am that person, answered he. Why, said I, you must have been very old when you defeated the monster of the mountain, and yet now you are very young again. Millan smiled at what I said, and with great politeness gave me his hand to conduct me to his apartment. After ascending

cending a very grand apartment, we went through two antichambers very elegantly furnished, and guarded by two young people looking very handsome. We were then introduced into a very elegant room whose tapestry was green and gold, and thence passed into a magnificent closet.

## C H A P. XIV.

*A singular piece of conversation.*

**M**Y dear madam, said Millan to me as soon as we were seated, there is such a contrariety between your world and ours, that it is impossible to imagine a greater opposition between any thing, than between them. Your trees which seem to your eyes of so great a magnitude, are here only little shrubs, and on the contrary, what among you is a little tender sprig, is with us an exceeding great tree; altho' our corn does not differ from yours in bigness, yet in the number of ears it so far surpasses it, that it supports

supports more persons by a fiftieth part than yours ; we have some animals which resemble plants, but none larger than those you call insects, and yet none seem smaller than your elephants and crocodiles ; your bats are the largest birds we have, yet your eagles are almost imperceptible to our sight ; you speak particular languages which are owing to the invention of men, we speak a universal language which is as natural as sight, hearing, and the other senses.

BUT the use of this language is confined to our region, and not at all known elsewhere ; all the attempts of the wisest among you to discover it, have and ever will be ineffectual ; you acquire it the moment you set foot on this island, but unless you are a native you forget it as soon as you leave it. In your world resurrection is a miracle, in ours this extraordinary event takes place every hundred years, and continues for the space of a day,  
of



of this you shall see an undoubted proof the day after to-morrow. Children are born among you with very tender skins, full of humours and soft, now this is the exact situation in which the people of this country die, whence you may easily conclude that we come into the world wrinkled, and with all the outward marks of extreme old age; as it is almost impossible for old age to be beautiful, neither Amyas nor I are reckoned at all handsome, but you, dear madam, who seem so extremely apprehensive of appearing ugly, you to our eyes are extremely handsome, as much so as you seemed to those who beheld you so lately at your sister's wedding: nothing I assure you so well becomes you as those remarkable and amiable wrinkles with which this climate hath adorned you, nor can any thing so transport us as the extreme whiteness of your hair, which quite dazzles us with its brightness. Whenever we go into your world, we always put on the same appearance

appearance as we should have had, had we lived in it some time; here we seem no otherwise than we really are, and yet in a manner peculiar to ourselves. It is an old man who is now speaking to you, to a young man who scarce has begun to enjoy the privilege of reason.

THE many changes Amyas underwent, ought to have prepared you to suffer your own without any dread or apprehension. Every thing that comes into this country must submit to its laws, and every one who goes out of it, only changes his government, does not withdraw himself absolutely from all authority. You was strangely deceived by appearances at the time I came in with a young man of your country, who had implored my assistance in your behalf. The queen herself heard your reproaches, nay she was somewhat anger'd therewith, but she has not withdrawn her kindness for you, and when I delivered your countryman to her I took

upon myself the trouble of informing you of the whole matter, if you do not make a proper use of the queen's kindness, you shall be returned to the world from whence you came, and there will be no longer any communication between us ; if you think proper to use it aright, you shall be exalted to the highest rank to which a mortal can aspire ; in a word you shall be a fairy, and in order to adopt you one, nothing more than your consent is absolutely necessary, if the power of transforming all sorts of bodies, and to work the most astonishing wonders with one stroke of your wand, if an almost immortal life affect you, or have any charms, come immediately to the fountain of emerald, some drops of that water will blot out immediately all your ideas, and bring you back to the happy childhood of an extended period of being.

GENEROUS Millan, said I, you have saved me from a great misfortune indeed

deed, by removing me at a distance from so fatal a water, I love my reason and my country too well to think of renouncing either; I am contented with my situation, let it be sufficient then that I admire yours most exceedingly; Millan was more surprized than angry at the answer I had made, he shrugged up his shoulders and gave me a look which discovered pretty sufficiently that he pitied me from his heart; immediately upon this six green cats, whose eyes shined like so many flambeaux, appeared at the door of the closet; they gave light to Amyas who came in just at this instant with an old man saying, Ajoub, here is an obstinate fellow, and here, replied Millan is a lady full as obstinate.

I IMMEDIATELY threw myself at the queen's feet, and brought her to forgive my weakness, and pardon the indiscreet words which had escaped me during the first agonies of my



grief; Ajoub, on the other hand took hold of Millan, of whom he was intreating forgiveness for his weakness. The anger which old people feel against young ones, replied the queen, is never of any long duration, get up, and since we are to separate, make a good use of the remainder of the time that you are to stay in my empire, by adhering very strictly to its laws.

Now that we were assured of our liberties, we got up with great joy, and in the mean time word was brought that supper was served up. We went then into the hall which was furnished with green tapestry, preceeded by the six cats; here we found eighteen more animals of the same species, and as many linxes, who all conspired to make the place as light as day. There were two tables, one with a number of dishes, and the other loaded with all sorts of sweetmeats. The mistress of the  
green

green palace, Millan, four queens, their husbands, and the genii of the most distinguished rank and family placed themselves at the first of these tables, and were immediately served with all kinds of perfumes, which are the ordinary nourishments of the fairies, natives of this land of confusion; Ajoub and myself, together with a number of guests, natives of the same world with me, sat down at the other; in the first course we had a fricasee of pheasants, in the second ortolens as large as geese, the third was composed of mouses tongues, plates of artichokes and melons; the greater part of these dishes were at that time unknown to me, but the next day I had a full relation of all of them; after supper they gave my countryman and me a cat each, to light us to our several apartments, a handsome little maid helped to undress me, and withdrew as soon as I was in bed. My cat having taken away the light by shutting his eyes,

I revolved over in my mind all my adventures, and I perceived I know not well how, that Ajoub had made a much more surprizing impression than any of the other amazing objects that had presented themselves to my view. Hitherto I had lived without any prepossession, and was so great a novice in love, that finding my heart was taken by surprize, I melted into tears ; whence comes it, said I, that I dream of this little monster, whom I never saw till to-day ? why was I so apprehensive that Amyas should get possession of him ? Alas ! I can no longer doubt that he is not indifferent to me ; and if the sentiments with which he has inspired me are not love it must be somewhat exceedingly like it. Alas ! my heart has deceived me.

AFTER all, continued I, there is nothing so very disgusting in the figure of the young man, where then would be the great crime of being in love with him ; we should, nay we do run  
the

the same risque, and this is an all-sufficient reason to form a connection between us ; I cannot help thinking that he already feels for me, what I am sensible I do for him ; now this is a very material circumstance, and should accordingly be enquired into, but I am not sufficiently mistress of myself to pry into his sentiments, without discovering my own. Tired at length with the perplexity of my own thoughts, I fell asleep ; the little maid who attended me the night before, came to wake me in the morning.

SCARCELY was I dressed when I saw Amyas, Millan, and the princess, Amyas's eldest daughter, who by way of distinction from the rest, was called the princess with the blue eyes. The queen and her husband asked me with a sort of smile upon their countenances, what sort of a night I had had ? I answered with the utmost marks of gratitude and respect, that I had a very good one. The question



that is put to you, replied they, respects the whole night, whereas your answer is only a partial one. This latter part of their discourse amazed me exceedingly, for by it I plainly perceived they had heard all that had passed. Our great penetration, said Millan, I see disconcerts her; be of good cheer, added he, and hesitate no longer at obeying the laws of the island of confusion. As soon as he had said this, he took from one of his people a great root, and holding it up by one end, gave me a slip and commanded me to strike it against a little black spot which was marked on the hangings. I had no sooner done this, than I heard a hideous scream, and my companion Ajoub presented himself before me with his face all over blood, and the piece of wood sticking in his forehead. Alas, my dear Ajoub, cried I, embracing him, what have I done? how cruel, or rather how unfortunate have I been! was there no other hand but mine to execute

ecute Millan's pleasure? Alas! why did you make choice of me to shed blood which I would freely purchase with my own.

THE wounded person looked at me rather negligently, and indeed seemed to smile. Amyas, Millan, and the princess were exceedingly diverted, and asked one another humorously enough, whether I had not already made a formal declaration; there seems to be some sincerity in it, replied the wounded person, but one must not entirely depend on the first transports of lovers; if I were indeed sure that she would love me with constancy, I do not say but that—But this dark method of expressing myself is in itself too much. As I was preparing to thank him, and was continuing my plaintive strain, Millan, who held him all this while by the hair, let him go, and took out the slip from his forehead, without leaving the least scar. Amyas now ask-

ed me what were my present sentiments with respect towards him in whose behalf I had interested myself so deeply while under misfortunes.

You are already acquainted with my sentiments, I love him. This is exactly as you ought to speak, replied the queen; the doubt and uncertainty you expressed yesterday, directly contradicted the customs of my kingdom where all the first overtures are made by the women. I told her that nothing could be more agreeable to reason than the custom she had mentioned, and that I should think myself exceedingly happy if Ajoub would accept of my proposals. You have both paid obedience to our laws, said the queen, but since you prefer your own country to this, I am very willing to give you your liberty this moment; at the same time touching us with her wand, let the influences, said she, that have hitherto acted on you, cease to have any farther power. A-myas

myas did not give us time to thank her, but went out with her train, and there remained only in the room Ajoub and myself; as soon as Amyas and Millan were gone out, we ran to the looking-glass, where we had the pleasure to see ourselves and each other in our natural shapes. I was not displeased at Ajoub's appearance, on the other hand, he was exceedingly delighted with me. Madam, said he to me with a good deal of respect, I do not know how I can presume to appear before you, after what has happened; my confusion is extremely great, I wish to God, said I, that among the blessings resulting from the island of confusion, the deprivation of memory had been one. Let us then replied he, live as if we had no recollection of the past. I beseech you, said I, acquaint me with the particulars of your story; upon which he made me the following recital:

C H A P.



## C H A P. XV.

*Story of Ajoub of Schira.*

**I** Am, said he, the son of Ajoub, a physician. You know very well, said he, madam, that all the young people of Schira learn to dance and play on some instrument ; one evening when the heat was so excessive, that it obliged almost every one to turn night into day, I took my flute and went into the street for the benefit of the fresh air ; after walking about for some time, as I was returning home, the door of a very fine house opened, and I heard a voice saying to me, is it you ? I was in great hopes of some such piece of good fortune. Yes, said I, it is me. Come up then, replied the voice. I went up stairs, and came into a hall, the door of which was on the jar, three young men whom I found there surrounded me immediately with their drawn sabres ; expiate by your blood, said they,

they, by your blood, the injury you have done us in debauching our sister. I did not dare to put myself on the defensive, for fear of irritating them still more. Gentlemen, said I, do nothing rashly, you are certainly mistaken, you take me for some other person. This stopped them a little; who art thou then? said one of them, if not the wretch we were so eagerly waiting for. My name, said I, is A-joub, I live in such a street, where my family is well known. Upon this an old man who was hitherto concealed in a dark closet, came out with a young lady excessively beautiful, and very richly dressed, leaning her head down, her eyes fixed on the ground, and shedding abundance of tears. Gautier, said the old man, to the lady, is this the villain that debauched you? Gautier blushed like a new-blown rose, and after looking on me some time, told him it was not me.

THE old man, as soon as he was undeceived, made me a multitude of apolo-

apologies, and was going to send me back again, but one of the young men placed himself between me and the door, and lifting up his sabre, swore that he would not let the man who had been witness to the dishonour of his family go out of the house. The two others declared he was much in the right of it, and that it was absolutely necessary to kill me. Passion my dear children, said the old man, has quite blinded you, deal not I pray you so madly, it can never be agreeable to justice that the innocent should suffer; every drop of his blood would cry out against us, and we should be sure of feeling the vengeance of heaven for so iniquitous an action. Ajoub continued he, taking me by the hand, make your escape, and conceal what you have heard, if you have any value for your life. I went out of the house without looking behind me, and made haste towards home. Just as I was opening the door, an arrow came whizzing by my ear, and made such

such a noise, that I immediately started back. I soon perceived a man with a bow in his left hand, and a long javelin in his right, who as soon as I came up to him, hollowed out, traitor, although I have missed you, yet I will still endeavour to do for you. I immediately ran up, and drawing my sabre, gave him two deep wounds in his breast; he called out to me to stop, which I instantly consented to, but went to a surgeon to come to his relief. I only went home to get a horse, and what little money I had, and without taking leave of any body, I went out of a place where I had every thing to fear, from the rage of a man, who would doubtless have made me atone, by a shameful death, for the slaughter of his son. I went out without keeping any beaten path, and towards the middle of the night arrived at the great lake Babu, which was then wonderfully still. I kept a-long side it for some time, and being entered into the town that bears the same



same name, I knocked at the first door I came to, no one gave any answer except a great dog, who barked with all his might, and by his noise awakened all the other dogs of the place. In a little while the whole town rang with the noise of these animals, but none of the inhabitants troubled themselves to enquire into the reason. I went afterwards to several other doors, but found no better reception, till my patience being entirely worn out, I quitted the place, and, designing to find out some place where I might repose myself, quitted the great road, and taking a path that separated two little mountains, struck into a wood, where I chose my lodging at the foot of a wild palm tree. I slept there till sun-rise, and being awakened was very much surprized to hear the voice of a man very near me, speaking in this manner:

THIS hour, my daughter, is the most advantageous of all; the fairies call

call it the hour of wonders. This is the time in which the genii of benevolent dispositions, gather the powerful herbs which transform intemperate men into wild beasts; now all nature obeys their orders, and their mysterious words have a surprizing efficacy; the rising sun admires them whether they are employed in openly attacking the children of Ifrier, or dissipating the vain projects of magicians. 'Tis at this hour, in short, that the fairies shew themselves under different shapes, to princes who love and execute justice, and to tyrants who have deserved punishment. Alas, child, if the eyes of your understanding were now opened, you would see as I do, some of them employed in the hollow vales of Mazandera, driving out lions and tigers from their dens to conduct them to the defence of oppressed innocence, while others with wonderful facility are taming hydras and griffins.

I HAD

I HAD not patience to listen any longer to so strange a discourse without seeing at the same time the person who made it. Having crept gently under the shadow of the trees, I advanced towards a great laurel tree, whence I could perceive an old man clad in a long brown garment, sitting near a girl. The girl was covered with a blue veil, which concealed every thing but her face and hands, her eyes were fixed on the old man, to whom she was listening very attentively. I discovered myself, and by that means interrupted their conversation. The girl immediately hid her face, and the old man came up towards me : You see, said I, a traveller before you, who tired out with the length of the way, and the want of food, is necessitated to ask your relief. Son, said he, you are welcome ; sages are always hospitable ; the good that I am going to do you, will be matter of new instruction for my girl. Go and rest yourself in my house,

house, I will come to you again in an hour.

ALTHOUGH the entrance leading to it was exceeding narrow and dark, yet the inside was extremely well lighted up, and divided into large and commodious apartments. A slave whom I had acquainted with the good intentions of his master and my own necessities, gave me some raisins, pistachoes, fresh dates, white bread, and most excellent honey. While I am making use of these good things you have set before me, I should be glad, said I to him, if you would go and catch my horse, and described to him, as well as I could, the place where I had left him. If you have any inclination, replied the slave, that I should do what you desire, you must promise not to stir from the place in which you now are till I return, or at least, till my master comes in. I promised him I would not, but after having filled myself pretty well,  
so



so vehement a desire came upon me, to examine the habitation of so extraordinary a man, that I was utterly unable to keep the promise I had made. I searched therefore every part of it: the innermost part of the grotto formed a sort of closet, which was filled with books, talismans, and figures of all sorts of plants and animals. I stopped in this place for some time, and seeing upon the table a parchment unroll'd, in which I could plainly discover something written in green letters, I took it up inconsiderately, and read the following words, fairy Millan, lieutenant of the green palace, father Millan, husband to Amyas, what are the fairies now doing? as soon as I had pronounced the last word of this invocation, Millan, who you know appeared to me and took me away without saying a word, you must doubtless by this time be assured, that it was he who brought me into the island of confusion.

## C H A P. XVI.

*Continuation of the lady's story.*

**A** J O U B having given me an account of his adventures, I could not do less than impart mine to him likewise ; he then insinuated that I was not by any means unknown to him, that he had been my admirer for a prodigious while, and that our fortunes had been nearly equal ; in-  
 somuch that his happiness depended only on my consent. I gave him the hearing without throwing any thing in the way to discourage him, and yet without giving him the least room to guess at the real situation of my heart. Our conversation lasted all dinner-time ; after dinner the young princess took us into the gardens, she was, by far the handsomest of all the fairies. Her hair was black, her eyes large and sparkling, a complexion which it is impossible accurately to describe, without at the same time mentioning  
 lillies

lillies and roses, an air of nobility which she had an undoubted claim to, and when she spoke it was with all the gracefulness that can be conceived. Since you are so soon to leave us, said she, I must finish the instructions it is necessary you should have before your departure. Do you know these flowers? We told her that we was quite charmed with the beauty and arrangement of those we beheld. The princess was so obliging as to tell us the names of each, and to bring them to our remembrance; I say bring them to our remembrance, for we were already acquainted with them; but should never have been able to have known them again, on account of the extraordinary size of which they are found in this island. For instance, how could one ever imagine, that a violet could be as large as a pumkin. This agreeable occupation, did not, however prevent the princess from giving us some information with respect to the religion of  
the

the fairies, and the continued opposition they have maintained for several years against the other aerial spirits ; she enlarged likewise on several other particulars which had not been comprehended within the instructions either of Amyas or Millan.

ON one side of the garden was a great trench filled with water, on the other side was a little building of a very delicate structure, raised up in the form of a castle ; we desired the princess to permit us to take a view of this remarkable edifice ; she immediately gave her consent, and cried out in a loud tone of voice, oh Moor, Moor : upon this a gondola was let loose from the side of the building, and Moor, an old water rat of a violet colour, with a grey beard, and equal in size to a bear, carried us over. We got on the other side, and entered into a little recess which had all the air imaginable of being enchanted ; but we were extremely  
asto-



astonished at not seeing the princess any more, who had entered this recess with us, and could not forbear blushing to find myself thus left alone with Ajoub.

GIVE me now, said I, to him, an incontestable proof of the reality of your affection for me, by a reserved and decent behaviour; nothing will interpret your intentions so favourably to me as modesty. Ajoub looked upon me stedfastly for some time, with the air of a man who was thoroughly disconcerted, and as soon as ever I had done speaking, he wiped his lips and moved his hand just as if he had finished that instant, and yet so far was I from distinguishing what he had said, that I had not so much as heard the sound of his voice. I looked upon him in my turn, with surprize, Ajoub, said I, your silence amazes me exceedingly, pray what is the meaning of all these signs? what do you say? He began upon this to  
mov

move his lips again, and make all those gestures which people usually do when they want to explain themselves, and yet I did not hear a syllable more pronounced than I did the first time. I imagined that the young man had a mind to impose on me, on the other hand he was verily persuaded I was doing the same. We looked then upon each other with a scorn which it is impossible to express. The daughter of Amyas made herself visible, and laughed exceedingly hearty: you are much in the wrong, said she, to quarrel, it is in consequence of a peculiar charm belonging to this closet that you have not heard each other. As the young fairies of each sex come hither pretty often, the queen has not thought proper that they should be able to give each other a verbal account of their tenderness. As soon as ever the heart interests itself in this business, the ear has from that instant no power to perform its usual functions; be-

sides, the several airs you both put on, afforded me so much diversion, that it was with reluctance I could bring myself to discover the affair to you; in return, however, for this I will endeavour to compensate, by giving you leave to put to me what questions you please.

HAVING taken our places upon a Sofa, a little lower than hers, we were silent for some time, in order to recover from the confusion we had undergone; I then said to her, great princess, I would fain know the reason why the female sex is the uppermost in this island? Amyas is queen, and Millan is not king, and the other fairies, whether queens or subjects, are all superior to their husbands: now this seems very extraordinary to me; is this custom, I pray you, introduced to make some compensation to the fairies for the pains they undergo in their youth? in our world, before marriage, the young men are  
entirely

entirely governed by their mistresses, afterwards they become our absolute tyrants. Our laws, replied the princess, are infinitely preferable to yours, and in this particular are founded on three very substantial reasons; first, the female fairies are much superior in understanding to the male, and are naturally as much above them, as they are above mere men; the ascent is quite gradual. Secondly, they are much stronger as well as wiser, now the reason why the men govern among you, is on account of the superiority of their strength. The third reason is a secret, only remember in general, that faithfulness is the source of every thing, and therefore too much respect cannot be paid to it.

As soon as the princess had done speaking, it is very improbable, said Ajoub, that we should have leisure enough to examine the city as much as it doth require, wherefore I doubt not but the lady will agree to my de-



firing you to give us some account of it. This city, replied the daughter of Amyas, is called Perplexity; after the death of Gian, the sovereign monarch of all the genii, the war which for some time had seemed to be at an end, being renewed between the fairies and the other aerial spirits, such disorders and commotions were produced, that Gian, the only son of this good king, determined to go out with his whole family, and with four other families, the most illustrious among the fairies. This great design was attended with remarkable success, through the vigilant assistance of Feremah his wife, who deceived the aerial enemy, and by a happy fraud, conducted his triumphant troops into this island. The city was built in a very short space of time, and was Gianara, which signifies, in its true etymology, perplexity. In order to maintain peace in this new colony, she gave an equal authority to her own, to four heads of families who  
had

had accompanied her, and from that time to this day, Gianara has been under the government of five queens. They at first wore five different colours, in order to distinguish themselves and their subjects, and even their descendants. These colours are green (which is ours) blue, yellow, red, and white. The city consists of five great streets, which all terminate in one point; the palaces are built of the same coloured marble which distinguishes the queen whose habitation it is; the ordinary houses are built of the same colour which their inhabitants wear, and are possessed by fairies of the second order. Tomorrow you will see the wide open place where all the streets terminate, and the academy, which is the most sumptuous building of all, but whatever admiration so superb a building may cause in you, the resuscitation of Feremah and Gian, my ancestors, the very same persons of whom I have been lately speaking, will amaze

you much more. The princess got up as soon as she had finished this discourse, and we went over the water with her again; we walked for some time in a long orange grove, which could scarce support the weight of its excellent fruit; a wonderful coolness and perfume was spread all about it, so that upon the whole, I may say, that I never met with any thing so agreeable.

ON the morrow, a little before day break, the whole town was awakened by a most delightful symphony, which was heard in the air, just over the academy, whither people flock'd from all sides. As soon I came into the yard, I found two animals like elephants, about thirty feet in length, and proportionably wide, richly harnessed, carrying upon their backs very convenient lodgings, consisting of one room and two closets; the room was first, and might be perhaps about a square of twelve feet; the closets,

closets, one of which served by way of antichamber, and was about six feet wide, and seven feet long. These portable lodgings were hung with green velvet, and the rest of the furniture was answerable to it, and altho' the richness of it is no expence to the fairies, yet the taste and elegance that is every where visible, is no inconsiderable part of their merit. I cannot forbear observing; as I go along, that there is no carriage comparable to that which I have just now mentioned; the elephant is admirably docile, and always subservient to the will and direction of his guide, who is fixed very near the head of the animal; he will go as fast as you would have him, and yet his motion does not jolt or discompose you in the least; if he lames one foot, you do not perceive it, for he has thirteen others to support him, and he makes use of his two horns as dextrously as the elephants manage their trunks.



WHILE I had my eyes fixed on this wonderful phænomenon, there fell upon my face a drop of water, but withal so exceedingly cold, that it deprived me of all sensation for a time; I know not what became of me till I found myself at my father's house at Schiras, in bed, in a most violent perspiration, and almost dying with hunger. I asked for somewhat to eat, they gave me so sparingly, that I perceived very plainly, they imagined I was sick. My father, sister, and the physician assured me that I had been three whole days without moving, and almost without pulse. I told them that probably some phantome which had assumed my shape, had deceived them, and thereupon I gave them a long account of the adventure which had befallen me. My father's sighs, the frequent gestures of my sister, and a certain scornful smile the physician affected to put on, made me conclude that they did not think my narration to be probable

ble in the least; my sister's beard would have been an irresistible testimonial in my favour, but alas! she had no longer any beard; it was in vain that I asked for the gown that was continually changing its colour, in vain that I called out on Amyas; at least, said I, you cannot deny that the basha's son has been dangerously wounded by young Ajoub; they confidently asserted that none of the basha's children had ever been wounded. I was obliged therefore to bear with the incredulity not only of my family, but of the whole city.

TIRED out at length, with so general a perverseness, as soon as my recovery was compleated, I obtained leave of my father to go to Ormus, to an aunt's of mine who is still living there, Ajoub came and found me out at a time that I had almost entirely forgot him. It was with some difficulty at first, that we knew each other again, but he made such pertinent

tiuent replies to the questions I put to him, that all my scruples immediately vanished away. I desired him to give me an account of his escape from the island of confusion.

## C H A P. XVII.

### *Conclusion of Ajoub's story.*

I Came out from thence, said he, in the same manner you did, a drop of water which fell upon me, quite froze me up: as soon as ever my animal spirits began to revive, I perceived that I was stretched out upon a bed of dry leaves in the inmost recess of a grotto. It belonged to the sage of Babu, but it was so empty and deserted, that it seemed as if it had never been inhabited; in the farther part of it which was a kind of closet, I found a scroll, in which I read the following words: “ Ajoub, “ your rashness, which deserves a “ most exemplary punishment, may “ perhaps

“ perhaps be the cause of exceeding  
 “ great happiness to you ; perhaps  
 “ too an unhappy fierceness may  
 “ bring you here again. If you re-  
 “ turn, the situation of the place will  
 “ make you remember your offence.  
 “ This is the point to which the sage’s  
 “ revenge confines itself, who far  
 “ from carrying his resentment to the  
 “ height that meer man would, is so  
 “ condescending as to inform you  
 “ that the person whom you wound-  
 “ ed at Schiras, is now one of your  
 “ best friends.” The reading this  
 scroll gave me infinite pleasure, I  
 went out of the grotto, and having,  
 contrary to my expectations, found  
 my horse tied to a tree, I got upon it,  
 and travelled with great expedition,  
 the road to Schiras. As soon as I got  
 there, I alighted at a friend’s of mine,  
 and wrote a note to the basha’s son,  
 who in his answer, desired to see me  
 immediately : as soon as I got near  
 his couch, he got up, and taking hold  
 of my hand, I have taken such good  
 precau-



precautions, said he, that my father does not so much as know that I have been wounded ; my wounds, though great are not dangerous, so that neither you nor I have any thing to fear on this account.

I DESIRED he would not let me remain any longer in ignorance concerning the cause of his hatred. Jealousy, said he, lighted up the flame you saw me in, which had it not been for your generosity must have proved fatal. I had, continued he, an appointment that very evening in the house you went to, and the signal I was to give, as notice of my arrival, was to be by playing on the flute in the street, this was the signal I had told the beautiful Gautier in a note I sent her ; having seen you pass under my window, I followed you, you went in to my mistress, and staid a pretty while. I thought she had betrayed, and you had robbed me of what I thought an inestimable jewel ;

inex-

inexpressible rage took possession of me, I followed and attacked you, the success of which you are very well acquainted with.

My innocence, replied I, deserved at least that I should escape. As to your innocence, said he, I am perfectly satisfied and convinced of that, yesterday one of Gautier's slaves acquainted me that my last note had been intercepted by her brothers, and moreover gave me an account of the unlucky accident that had befallen you. I was very much moved with it, but I had well nigh sunk outright, when he farther told me that my mistress was going to be sacrificed as a victim to our love, and that she had not above two hours more to live. Without hesitating a moment, I writ a note to her father to acquaint him that I had always intended to marry Gautier, and that I asked her of him immediately. This note signed with my name, had all the effect I could possibly

possibly desire ; Ajoub, continued he, let us always be friends, and if you will grant me this, then go and confirm immediately, the promise I have given. I discharged this commission with full as much satisfaction as those felt, who but a few days before were so intent upon murdering me. The night following I was thrown into a violent fever, through the violent agitation and fatigue I had undergone the preceding day.

It was some time before I was well enough to see any one, nay I was not out of danger when the news of your return reached even mine ears ; alas, the report of your departure to Ormus, was much more quick, indeed it would have killed me, had not my father made use of the proper remedies for my cure. Being acquainted with the grand cause of my present illness, he had recourse to your father, and after many conferences they came at last to some agreement



agreement between each other. A-joub brought me a letter from my father,, wherein I found with a satisfaction which it was in vain to dissemble, he had given his consent that he should be his son-in-law ; it is no difficult matter to do your duty when you are prompted to it by inclination ; after our wedding, A-joub gave himself up entirely to trading. Forgive my not giving you any farther account, I do not know by what means, but death found a way to seperate us.

HERE the lady ended her narration, upon which I could not help wondering that a lady of such fine parts, so ready an elocution, and so quick an invention, for most of this was the undoubted offspring of her own heated imagination, I say I could not but wonder that a lady of such remarkable accomplishments should be given up to such strong delusions, Time, however, produced what all



the reasoning in the world never could ; as soon therefore as the bar to my happiness was removed, I instantly made her mine ; and here, reader, having sufficiently wearied thy patience, if any more adventures should befall me, not unworthy thy notice, expect to hear of sir Edmund in his conjugal state.

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